

"Votes for Women," July 23, 1909.

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

VOTES FOR WOMEN.

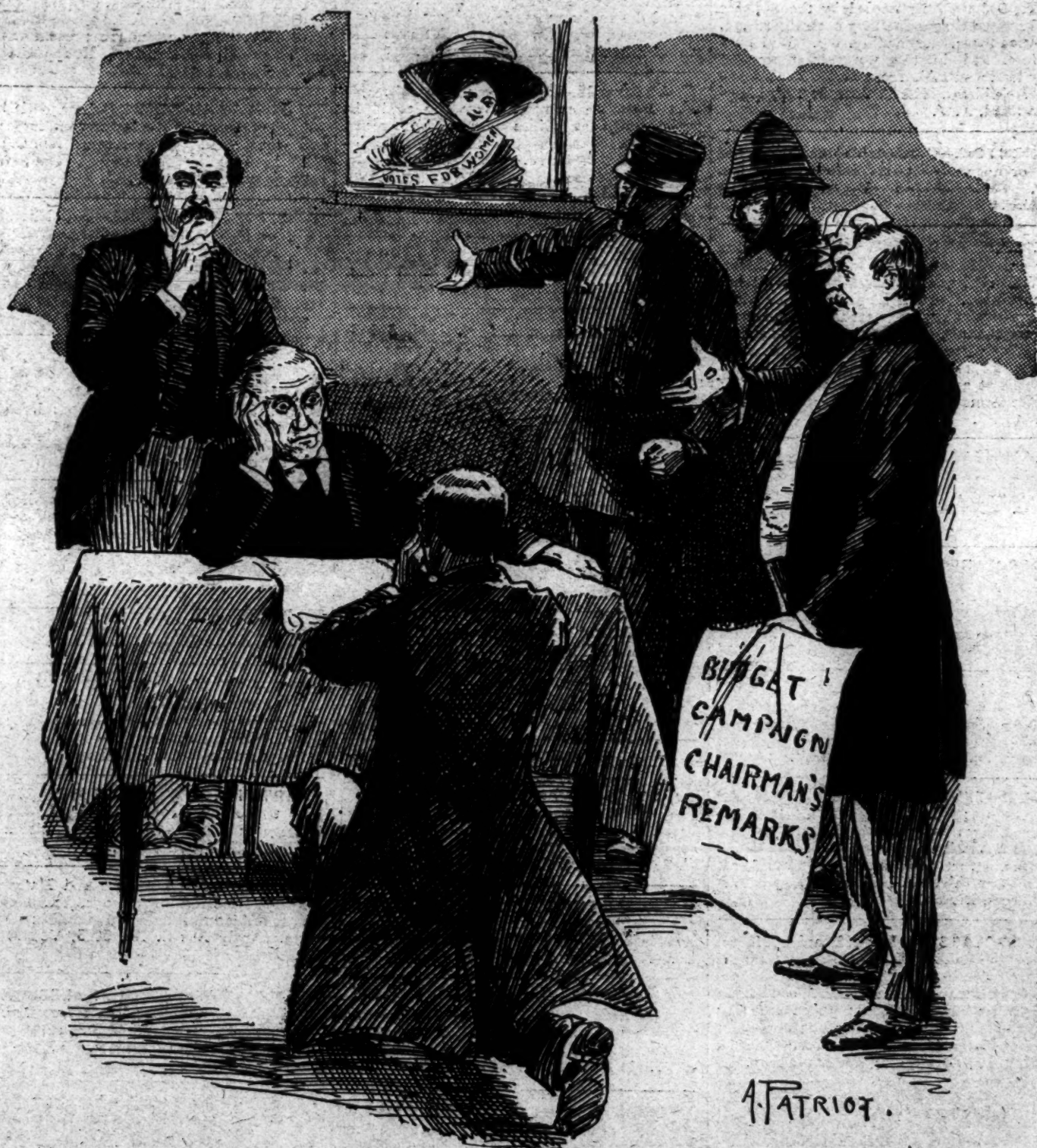
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VOL. II., No. 72.

FRIDAY, JULY 23, 1909.

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CONTENTS.

	Page.
Our Cartoon	961
Dedication	965
The Outlook	965
Helping VOTES FOR WOMEN	966
History of the Suffrage Movement. By Sylvia Pankhurst	967
First Impressions. By the Rev. Hugh B. Chapman	968
Progress of Women	969
Married Women Teachers	970
The Hunger-Strike in Holloway	971
Comments of the Press	973
Our Post Box	974
Announcements and Programme	975
Coercion Defeated. By Christabel Pankhurst	976
The Treatment of Political Prisoners	977
The Bye-Elections	978
Our Holiday Campaign	980
Two Great Meetings	981
Questioning Cabinet Ministers	982
Contributions to the £50,000 Fund	983
The Campaign Throughout the Country	984
Selling the Paper	986
The Press on Mr. Asquith's Attitude	988
The Right to Petition	988
Local Notes	990
Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association	990
International Council of Women in Toronto	990
The Women's Freedom League	990

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The Editors cannot hold themselves in any way responsible for the return of unused manuscripts, though they will endeavour as far as possible to return them when requested if stamps for postage are enclosed.

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The paper can be obtained from all newsagents and book-stalls.

For Quotations for Advertisements, apply to the **Advertisement Manager, VOTES FOR WOMEN 4, Clements Inn, Strand, W.C.**

DEDICATION.

To the brave women who to-day are fighting for freedom; to the noble women who all down the ages kept the flag flying and looked forward to this day without seeing it: to all women all over the world, of whatever race, or creed, or calling, whether they be with us or against us in this fight, we dedicate this paper.

THE OUTLOOK.

The past week will be memorable for the splendid and unflinching heroism of the fourteen women sent to prison in connection with the deputation of June 29. The authorities have endeavoured in vain to break down their determination and to force them to obey the regulations of the prison as second-class offenders. With supreme indifference as to the consequences to themselves, with a confidence that nothing could shake as to their rights as political prisoners, they have struck, and struck successfully, against the Government.

A Plague Spot in Holloway.

As we reported last week, on their arrival at the prison they petitioned the Governor. This petition being refused, they deliberately broke the windows of their cells and showed

themselves disobedient to the other regulations of the prison. For this offence they were brought before the visiting magistrates and sentenced to seven, eight, and ten days of close confinement. The conditions of this punishment have now been disclosed, and at the same time the general public has learnt something of this inner recess of prison life, on which it was full time that the light of day should be shed. The punishment cells into which the Suffrage prisoners were thrust are veritable dungeons, which, as Miss Florence Cooke rightly remarked to the Governor, could but drive any ordinary criminal to madness. The description of one of these cells given on another page of this issue indicates the extremities to which the authorities were prepared to go in their attempt to force the women into obedience.

The Hunger Strike.

But the heroic courage of the Suffragettes was not exhausted; they had another weapon yet to use, and they used it with tremendous effect. All other protests being rendered impossible, they decided to protest by means of the hunger strike which has proved so effective in the case of Miss Wallace Dunlop, and which they knew they could use, and were prepared to use, whatever cost it entailed upon themselves. Commencing, therefore, with the afternoon of Wednesday, July 14, several of the prisoners determined to refuse all food. This determination they carried out with grim courage. Day after day passed, and in spite of all the pressure that could be brought to bear upon them by the authorities they remained resolute. At the time of going to press twelve of them have been set at liberty—Miss Gladys Roberts, who was not released until she had been without food for five days and six hours; Miss Florence Cooke, who suffered a similar period; Miss Mackenzie, who was six days and seven hours; Mrs. Holtwhite Simmons, who was six days; Miss Carwin, who was six days and six hours; Miss Ada Wright, who was six days; Mrs. Dove-Wilcoxon, Miss Mary Allen, Miss Garnett, Mrs. Bouvier, Miss Irene Spong, and Miss Kathleen Brown, all of whom suffered for many days to carry out the protest to the end.

Hopeless Position of the Government.

We do not know what is the feeling of the Government in this matter, but we may assure them that they are up against something bigger than they know, and that this same spirit which is in women will get the better of them and force them to reason and justice. We print on another page an extract from a letter from Sir James Bryce, until recently a Cabinet Minister in the present Government, setting out very clearly the definition of political offenders and their proper treatment in prison. We also print extracts from a leading article in the *Daily News* of Saturday last, in which the claim of Suffragettes to treatment as political prisoners is further reinforced. We call special attention to the following paragraph:—

Now the distinction between the first and the second divisions is not merely that the conditions of the first are comparatively easy and lenient. It is also that the second inflicts, and is meant to inflict, humiliation. The women, it seems to us, in this and previous cases, have a right to be placed in the first division, and we cannot wonder that they insist on their right. The responsibility cannot be thrown wholly on the magistrate. Mr. Gladstone did intervene to move Mrs. Cobden Sanderson and others from the second to the first division. He has also interfered to move a woman from the third to the second division. He ought to interfere again and finally.

After that, the contention which Mr. Gladstone is so fond of making, and which was supported by Mr. Herbert Samuel in

Cleveland, that no responsibility rests on the Home Secretary in the matter, looks rather like a "terminological inexactitude."

Miss Clarkson's Imprisonment.

All over the country where Cabinet Ministers have been speaking in the Budget campaign women have taken the opportunity of protesting against the treatment of their fellow-women. At Leigh a great scene took place outside the Co-operative Hall, where Mr. Harcourt was addressing an audience. Miss Florence Clarkson was arrested for her part in the proceedings; and other women, we are told by the local papers, would have been arrested but for the vigorous intervention of the crowd. Tried next day, Miss Clarkson was sentenced to a fortnight's imprisonment in the second division, and, announcing her intention of revolting against the refusal of her rights as a political prisoner, she was taken away to Strangeways Gaol, Manchester. On Thursday, July 29, she will be released at the conclusion of her term, and it is hoped that a great demonstration will await outside the prison gates to give her a welcome back to liberty. In the evening a supper is being given her at the Grotto Café, tickets for which (2s. 6d. each) can be obtained of Miss Gawthorpe, 81, Victoria Road, Victoria Park, Manchester.

Other Protests.

At Edinburgh, where Mr. Winston Churchill was speaking last Saturday, a great demonstration outside the building took place, and Miss Adela Pankhurst and Miss Bessie Brand, the daughter of the distinguished Edinburgh Liberal, were arrested, but shortly afterwards were released. In other places where Cabinet Ministers were speaking scenes of protest were witnessed, and members of the Government must be beginning to realise that their attitude towards women is rousing among the people of the country tremendous and widespread opposition.

The Bye-Elections.

The second of the three Government bye-elections has ended in a further lesson to the Government. Though Mr. Gulland has not been defeated in Dumfries, yet the reduction of his majority by over 300 votes is very significant in view of the smallness of the constituency. The Scottish electors have been for generations convinced Liberals, and it is only after very serious consideration that they can be made to realise the illiberal character of the present Liberal Government. It was not till the end of the fight that they began to appreciate the women's position, and had the election been protracted for another week the vote might even have gone against the Liberal candidate. Meanwhile, in the High Peak Division the fight still goes on, and the poll will not be declared until after this paper is in the hands of our readers, but the evidence of the effect which the women are having grows greater every day. Last Saturday *The Nation* stated that "the opposition, we suspect, of the Suffragettes now counts for something in all constituencies, artisan or other." And the leader writer of the *Daily News* on Wednesday last wrote:—

Another issue which is playing a part in the High Peak, as in most recent contests, is the question of the Suffrage. Here again it is fair to remember that the main factor which weighs with the Government in postponing its Reform Bill till the final Session is the moral certainty that the Lords will reject it.

After this double confession, the value of and need for militant action is more apparent than ever.

Holiday Campaigns.

A ready response has been forthcoming to the invitation which we gave last week for members of the Women's Social

and Political Union and their friends to inform us of their movements during the holidays with a view to taking up a Woman Suffrage campaign in the various resorts to which they were going. We print on page 980 a holiday directory, which we shall be glad to add to from time to time, so that the whereabouts of members may be known and the work which they are doing to push forward the cause may be done in co-operation with one another.

Married Women Teachers.

Our heartiest congratulations to the married women teachers who have—for the present, at any rate—vindicated their claim against the Warrington educational authorities that marriage cannot be a fitting ground for dismissal from employment. We thank Mrs. Stansfield and her colleagues for their action, which has been responsible for the victory gained, which is good not merely in itself, but as proving the necessity of offering a stubborn resistance if rights are to be maintained. We hope that all those women who are threatened with notice on account of their marriage will make a similarly bold stand. We must not forget, however, that Mr. John Burns has threatened to bring in new laws in order to turn married women out of their employment. The utmost vigilance is necessary to guard against this, and unless women are possessed of the Parliamentary vote even such vigilance will be of no avail.

Other Items of Interest.

We notice with interest the decision of the Wesleyan Conference to admit women in future as delegates to their proceedings. This resolution, which twenty years ago was defeated by a majority of eighteen votes, has now been carried by the overwhelming majority of 224 to 136. We draw special attention to the very interesting article which we publish in this issue by the Rev. Hugh Chapman, chaplain of the Chapel Royal, Savoy, whose conversion to the Suffrage cause we announced in our issue of last week, and who shows his intense appreciation of the work which is being done for Woman Suffrage by the Women's Social and Political Union.

A correspondent sends us a clause in the French "Bill of Rights" setting forth in unmistakable terms the right of the subject to petition the "depositories of public authority." It is this right which women claim to petition the depository of the kingly power which exists to-day in the Prime Minister.

HELPING "VOTES FOR WOMEN."

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

DEAR SIR,—Having raised the circulation of VOTES FOR WOMEN to its present splendid record, it has become a point of honour that the sales should not be allowed to decrease during the holidays. The At Homes, which have proved so successful an outlet in this direction, will soon be over for the summer months, and new ways must be found to make up the deficiency. The majority of readers will doubtless be dispersing themselves about the country in search of change and fresh air, and surely no more fascinating pastime could be found than to act as amateur paper-sellers! Those who have tried say that the paper sells on sight, and the only difficulty is to get enough copies to meet the demand.

Arrangements have been made to send parcels of fifty or more carriage free to any address in the United Kingdom, and I shall be glad if all members who are willing to help will put themselves in touch with me at 4, Clements Inn, so that I may help them with advice as to what to do and how to get in touch with other members staying in the same place.

ETHEL MILLS.

Much interest has been taken in the cartoon on the front of last week's VOTES FOR WOMEN, and readers will like to know that the originator of the idea, Mme. Sales, is a member of the W.S.P.U. She is the widow of a captain of French cavalry, Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur. Her father, now ninety-five years of age, is a considerable landowner on Sydenham Hill, where Mme. Sales was formerly President of the local Women's Liberal Association. He is a brother of the late General Saxton. On her mother's side she is a great-niece of the late Joseph Somes, M.P. for Dartmouth (the greatest shipowner of his time), and niece of the late Joseph Somes, M.P. for Hull, who in or about 1857 brought in a Bill to promote the closing of public-houses on Sundays.

HISTORY OF THE SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT.

By Sylvia Pankhurst. XLVIII.—The Anti-Suffrage Petitions—Universal Suffrage in Finland—Bye-Election Work.

We have seen that shortly after the imprisonment of the 56 Suffragettes on February 18, 1907, the Anti-Suffragists delivered a counterblast to the Votes for Women agitation in the shape of a petition to Parliament purporting to be signed by upwards of 21,000 persons. Later, on March 22, the day following that on which the 76 women had gone to Holloway, a second Anti-Suffragist petition containing 16,500 signatures was presented by Dr. Massie, M.P. The whole of the 37,700 signatures for these two petitions had been collected, Dr. Massie said, within four weeks' time. The statement was received with great cheering from the Anti-Suffragists, but when the petitions came to be officially examined they were rejected as "informal," because as the separate sheets of paper were pasted together, not headed by the prayer against the granting of Women's Suffrage, there was no evidence that the signatories knew for what purpose their signatures were being collected.

These petitions were indeed insignificant as compared with the large numbers of memorials that had for more than forty years been presented in support of Women's Enfranchisement; but entirely ignoring the fact that the two Anti-Suffrage petitions had not been accepted by Parliament, their promoters continually cited them as conclusive proofs that the majority of women did not want the Parliamentary Vote. Many public appeals were made to the Anti-Suffragists to publish an analysis of the signatures showing to what classes the women who had petitioned against the enfranchisement of their sex had belonged. This had almost invariably been done in the case of the Women Suffrage petitions, but though it had originally been promised the Anti-Suffrage analysis was not forthcoming. Miss Clementina Black and others who were at the time engaged in preparing a Women's Franchise Declaration therefore requested Mr. J. M. Robertson, M.P., to examine the Anti-Suffrage petitions on their behalf. Mr. Robertson's report on both petitions was that "whole batches of signatures are written in by single hands," that "the batch work begins on the very first sheets," and that it appeared as though the petitions "had been got up wholesale in this fashion." Mr. J. H. Wilson, M.P., Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Public Petitions, afterwards stated in the House of Commons that the names of whole families of persons had undoubtedly been written in by the same hand.

But the days in which women might either have won or lost the Parliamentary Vote by petitioning had long gone by, and all politically minded women knew it. Now it was a question of stern, hard fighting tactics, and if anything were needed to hearten the women to renewed energy in the struggle for freedom, it would have been the knowledge that in a neighbouring country, Finland, women had not only been granted the right to vote on the same terms as men, but were actually being elected as members of the Diet.

Under the new Finnish Constitution, universal adult manhood and womanhood suffrage with proportional representation had been inaugurated. The first election upon this basis took place in March, 1907. Sixty-four per cent. of the total electorate voted, and less than 1 per cent. of the ballot papers were spoilt. The women, it is said, voted in much the same ratio as the men. The Finnish Diet consists of 200 members. There were 63 women candidates, of whom 19 were elected.

The 181 men who were elected to the Diet were divided as follows:—80, or about 44 per cent., Socialists; 59, or about

32 per cent., Old Fennomans; 24, or 13.2 per cent., Young Fennomans; 24, or about 13.2 per cent., Swedish; 11, or about 6 per cent., Agrarians; 2, or about 1.1 per cent., Christian Labourers. Of the 19 women representatives elected, 9, or about 47 per cent. (one of whom was a teacher, one a school teacher, one a weaver, and one an agitator for women's rights), were Socialists; 6, or about 31.5 (including one school teacher, one restaurant keeper, and one clergyman's wife), Old Fennomans; and the remainder, among whom were three school teachers, were distributed amongst the other parties. We see from these figures that the desire to obtain women representatives was not confined to any one political party, but was common to all, and that the women elected as members of the Finnish Parliament, though amongst them there was a slightly larger percentage of Progressives, were divided politically in very much the same proportions as were the men representatives.

In England, meanwhile, the Women's Social and Political Union, so many of whose members were in prison, was working on steadfastly, and evidences of its growing activities were to be found on every hand. A year before—in March, 1906—but three branches of the Union had been formed. The number had now grown to fifty-eight. The organisers, of whom nine had now been appointed, had held upwards of 1,200 meetings during the past year, and early in April the Sunday afternoon meetings in Hyde Park were again started. At these Hyde Park meetings, held near the Reformers' Tree, huge crowds, frequently consisting of no fewer than 12,000 men and women, assembled week by week to hear the Suffragettes. In May there were two bye-elections in London—one fought by the Suffragettes, the other by the Suffragists.

The first of these was at Stepney. Though the seat had been held by a Conservative (Sir W. E. Gordon), it was thought that in this election the Liberals had a good chance of success, for they had chosen as their candidate Mr. Ben Cooper, the secretary of the Cigar Makers' Union, which was exceedingly powerful in the district. Only twice in its history had the seat been held by the Liberals, and on both occasions it had been won for them by a Labour man, and now Mr. W. T. Steadman, the Liberal Labour M.P., who had represented the constituency from 1898 to 1900, was energetically working for Mr. Cooper.

The Women's Social and Political Union, ever eager and vigilant in the prosecution of their anti-Government campaign, were early in the field, and had taken committee-rooms in the Commercial Road, which at once became the greatest centre of popular interest throughout the whole district. The appeal made by the Suffragettes for justice and fair play to women was readily understood and warmly responded to by the working people of Stepney, and the *Standard* merely voiced the general opinion there when it reported, but a few days after the beginning of the contest, that the W.S.P.U. were already making "considerable progress" in their campaign against the Government candidate.

Mr. Ben Cooper relied upon his thirty years' residence and undoubted popularity in Stepney to secure his return, and declared that he would get 100 women cigar makers who were members of his union to work for him and combat the influence of the Suffragettes. But the Suffragettes were able to show the electors that if Mr. Cooper were sent to represent them in Parliament he would be no more than a pawn in the hands of the Government. Therefore, because the Liberal Government had refused to do justice to women, Mr. Cooper, the Liberal candidate, was defeated. Polling took place on May 10, and the figures were:—

L. Harris (C.)	2,299
B. Cooper (Lib. and Lab.)	1,350

Majority 949

At the General Election the figures had been:—

Sir W. E. Gordon (C.)	2,490
D. Stokes (L.)	1,853

Majority 637

The vote cast for the Liberal was therefore reduced by 503, or 27 per cent., since the General Election, and the Conservative majority was increased by 312 votes.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS.

By the Rev. HUGH B. CHAPMAN, Chaplain of the Chapel Royal, Savoy.

The remarks of a novice have a special interest of their own in bringing out the ideal side of a movement, though they necessarily lay no claim to an inner knowledge of the subject. The first raptures of a convert have a peculiar attraction, and probably in every creed there are those who wish they could retain, and are always striving to return to, their earliest sensations. It is purely as such, and with becoming humility, that I would like to give my first impressions of the Suffragette movement as they came to me at the meeting at St. James's Hall on July 8, which was an entirely new experience.

I make no apology for the subjective character of this short article, being comparatively ignorant of pure politics, a subject which has been admirably thrashed out not only by the actual leaders, but by men like Mr. Zangwill and a host of others who may be regarded as experts on that side of the question. My own point of view is naturally coloured by my profession, and possibly this is all the better, since, in the long run, the metaphysics of any new gospel play by no means the least important part in its ultimate destiny.

Sans Peur et sans Reproche.

What struck me most forcibly was the strong sense of righteousness which pervaded the whole meeting, and especially the speeches from the platform. I confess to have been fairly enthused by the cleanness and goodness of it all, which are about the best words I can think of, and it is primarily on this account that the emotions of chivalry and sympathy with which I was stirred on the night of the demonstration at St. Stephen's blossomed into strong and decided convictions. There was a certain atmosphere of sternness and fearlessness, wholly free from the suspicion of rancour or lack of charity, which had for me the same sort of charm as must have moved a recruit in the early Crusades. Given such a spirit, victory, in my opinion, is assured, and I realise that every bit of it was required to combat that worst of enemies, the bathos of indifference. Somehow, the leaders of the movement raised the whole problem beyond the region of sneers or laughter, and there was a tone of deadly earnestness, coupled with a reasonable mirth, suggestive of far deeper and further-reaching issues than I had been led to expect were at stake. Indeed, I should like to thank these ladies for having brought into my life a fresh element of strength and heroic purpose for which I am extremely grateful, and which is just wanting to carry some of the best spirits in the country off their feet, provided, of course, that they can appreciate the generosity and courage of such types. I feel sure that every new enthusiasm is bound to subject itself to a similar test—viz., that of hearing for the first time a public pronouncement of the programme involved, and I can only say that henceforward "Votes for Women" will mean for me a great deal more than a passing excitement, having been translated by its advocates into an enterprise fraught with possibilities amounting to a reformation.

Having worshipped all my life at the shrine of womanly woman, I am glad to record the entire removal of my prejudices on that point—prejudices which may be almost described as the keystone of the situation. Fate has been exceedingly kind in providing Suffragettes with about the most womanly chiefs one can well imagine, and if they are a sample of their disciples I can only say that the popular accusation is extraordinarily misplaced, however much appearances may be technically against them. That there is a danger, however, it is more than well to admit, and a wise general will make his dispositions in accordance with the strength of the enemy. Here, to my mind, lies the chief ethical interest in the struggle—the reversal of what is tantamount to a superstition—namely, that woman unsexes herself in the evident fulfilment of her duty as part of the body politic. It is against this wall, which it were possibly more effectual to sap than to

storm, that the cause is bound to come up, and, in a sense, I am not sorry if the contest should be prolonged, seeing that the "nature of things" is seldom influenced by an immediate victory. Eventually it is the *morale* of the troops which decides a war, and it would be unwise to deny that the admission of women to the franchise demands a combination of qualities which, however desirable, cannot as yet be called the universal rule. The Women's Social and Political Union will have done a great service to their generation, if only by publicly protesting against the fallacy that woman's domain is limited to a doll's house, or that, in undertaking her responsibilities on a larger and more public scale, she need be jeopardising her vocation of wife, mother, daughter, sister, or friend.

The democratic trend of the Suffragette creed is for me delightful, and it would be difficult to think of another which is so utterly apart from rank, or money, or dress, or worldliness, or numberless attractions which are presumed to be irresistible to women. Here it preaches a sermon which is bound to tell, and one suddenly sees what woman is capable of when all these other things become to her as nothing, and she seeks her kingdom in the good of the State. It is a tonic the value of which cannot be overrated, and I hope I may never grow accustomed to its bracing effect, dispelling as it does memories of pettiness, jealousy, precedence, love of jewellery, and a thousand other weaknesses which are, apparently, lost in the passionate desire to liberate and raise the sisterhood of the race. Who can for one moment minimise the importance of such a result? If this same miracle (for it is nothing else) obtained on a larger scale, he, indeed, would be a poor patriot who did not bless the authors of it every day of his life, and support them for all he was worth in a scheme productive of, if not directly aiming at, such a consummation.

Principle, not Party.

As for the action of women at the hustings, it must, of course, remain a prophecy, but it is nothing less than a refreshment to find a body who are so keen as to a principle that party considerations count for nothing. After all, we can only speak as we have found, and for myself I have not the shadow of a doubt but that woman's influence will be always on the side of what appeals to the heart, of what is eloquent of kindness, and of what advocates fair play, justice, and, above all, religion in its broadest sense. The good done by the giving of the Parliamentary vote to women should go far, not only to humanise but to uplift the whole of our legislation, and the field of influence which it opens up, as must be apparent to anyone who possesses the smallest imagination, makes me surprised that the Churches have not spoken with no uncertain voice in its favour. Probably the old Biblical idea of woman's position is responsible for this; but I can well understand how the ministers, of whatever religion, working, as they necessarily must, through women, will one day have a chance of impressing their ideals on the national life from which they are at present distinctly and increasingly debarred.

I have reserved by far the most important of my impressions till the last, though it is almost too delicate to put into words. After leaving the hall, I witnessed scenes of which it is not convenient to speak, and I could not help remarking to my companion, "God bless those women, who are doing far more than they know in adding to the dignity of their sex, and making them too proud and too independent to live on man, and to become his temptation rather than his helpmeet." You will forgive such language from a stranger, but this is the bottom reason why I am going to advocate the Suffragette movement, and why I thank certain relations of my own for having brought me into it by their example, of which I shall always be proud. When woman stands on her

own feet, those feet will hesitate to walk where she is ashamed; and when it comes to her—as come it will—that her rôle is to serve the State, certain I am that she will largely cease to be driven to the degradation and to the ghastly misuse of her undeniable attractions. I have carefully read Mr. Campbell's words on the subject from an economic point of view, but never before did I feel more hope than after this particular meeting, profoundly believing, as I do, that the dilemma is more a moral than a fiscal one, and that, given the proper pride which rang throughout Mrs. Pankhurst's speech, woman will, under the worst of circumstances, prefer death to dishonour. Now, perhaps, it is intelligible why I am no longer surprised that to many the cause amounts to a religion, or that to them prison may become a pleasure and waiting may cease to be wearisome, considering the crown involved, which, all in good time, however gradual the weaving, shall be laid in spirit at His feet who was the King of Reformers, and who imbibed His passion of ministry from a woman.

P.S.—In conclusion, I cannot help asking for the privilege of a postscript as regards my relation to the methods adopted in pursuance of an object very close to my heart, and I do so not from the slightest shrinking from any price involved by my convictions, but lest I should do the cause itself harm by the apparent paradox of a preacher of the Cross countenancing collision with the law. My last desire is for one moment to water down my previous statements, but, on the other hand, I should be failing in my duty to the priesthood—which is, of course, my first consideration—unless from my official position I claimed the right of silence in this connection, whilst earnestly praying that these champions of womanhood may be inspired to the wisest, strongest, and most unassailable decisions.

PROGRESS OF WOMEN.

Indian Honours for a Woman.

The list of Indian birthday honours not announced in England until the arrival of the mail will interest readers of VOTES FOR WOMEN. The Kaiser-i-Hind gold medal has been conferred upon Miss Cornelia Sorabji, who for the past five or six years has been engaged in furnishing expert legal assistance, through the Bengal Court of Wards, to Indian widows and minors in the management of their estates. One of a large family of sisters (daughters of a Parsee converted to Christianity) who have done splendid pioneer work in the higher education of Indian girls on the Bombay side, Miss Sorabji has made for herself a highly remarkable career. After graduating with honours at Bombay University, and teaching English literature as the only woman Fellow of Ahmedabad College, she went to Somerville College, Oxford, with a scholarship, took up the study of law, and, were it not for the sex disqualification, would doubtless have been to-day one of the most successful advocates in an Indian High Court. She holds an English law degree, and is well known in English society.

"Conspicuous Bravery."

Quite a galaxy of brave deeds by women and girls have been done of late. From Melbourne comes the story of how Mrs. Lavinia Kennedy, of Warring, won the gold medal of the Royal Humane Society of Australasia, the highest award the society can bestow, for her prompt action in saving a little child from being dashed to pieces by a railway train. The child quite unconscious of danger was actually sitting on the railway track unseen by the driver of the train until too late to slow down. Mrs. Kennedy, who was walking near the line, raced the train, and, reaching the child, jumped with her into the cattle pit, the train passing over both without injury. From Melbourne, too, comes an account of how a girl named Charlotte Anderson slid down a well 20 ft. deep and rescued a little boy who had fallen into the water. Instances of women going to the help of the police are numerous, and another has occurred at Battersea, where Florence Smith, aged nineteen, was the only person in a crowd of 200 or 300 persons who attempted to blow the policeman's whistle while the officer struggled with a powerful man. The prisoner snatched the whistle from the girl and threw it amongst the crowd, but she secured it and blew it for help. Miss Smith

was publicly thanked for her extreme courage by the Recorder at the Old Bailey, who said that the public were greatly indebted to her. The brave action of a servant, Charlotte Tonkin, in a fire at a Penzance hotel recently, was most plucky. After giving the alarm, she went back through the flames and was instrumental in saving many lives while severely burnt herself. In another case, the Carnegie Medal has been awarded for bravery to a nurse—Miss Ethel Wharton—for saving a child from fire. She sustained such injuries that she will be a cripple for life.

Vera Figner, one of the most heroic figures of the Russian revolutionary movement and a prisoner for twenty-three years in the fortress prison of Schlüsselburg, was welcomed in London at a meeting recently. She was born in 1852, of a well-to-do noble family. She received her education in a high school for noblemen's daughters—an *institut de demoiselles*—and came out with the highest honours. The strong movement going on then in Russia for the right of women to higher education and the other great movement, "To the people!" carried her away. Becoming first a trained nurse, she soon saw that no peaceful work for the benefit of the people is possible in Russia under the autocratic régime. She became an ardent advocate of a constitutional change, and was soon convinced that the only way open was the revolutionary way. For her share in the daring propaganda work of the 'eighties she was condemned to death, her sentence ultimately being commuted to twenty years' imprisonment.

Another Plucky Woman.

A woman's plucky conduct in going to the assistance of the police has again been publicly acknowledged. At London sessions a coster was indicted for causing grievous bodily harm to P.C. Albert Humphries. A hostile crowd of several hundreds watched the struggle between the constable and his prisoner, when Mrs. Kate Melton, a young married woman, ran to the policeman's assistance, took his whistle from his tunic, and although a man in the crowd struck her on the back of the head with his fist, she ran towards the station blowing the whistle for assistance. The jury clapped their hands at the conclusion of the woman's story, and the judge thanked her on behalf of the police. The coster was sentenced to twelve months'.

New Zealand's Grace Darling.

A few weeks ago English Suffragettes commemorated the prowess of Grace Darling in a procession of the W.S.P.U. on Lifeboat Saturday. Now the news reaches us of the death of the Maori Grace Darling, whose name was Huria Matenga. Half a century ago a ship, the *Delaware*, was wrecked near her home, and twenty-three persons on board were in peril. She swam to the ship with a line, and by means of this all on board were rescued. Her bravery was acknowledged by the presentation of a gold watch.

Woman Suffrage in Sweden.

The Swedish National Women's Suffrage Association held its first meeting in Stockholm recently, and it was a great success from every point of view. The Association is non-political, and demands an unlimited vote, as the present system of universal suffrage excludes all participants in poor relief, however small the grant, this being especially hard for those widows and mothers of large families whose children are supplied with boots by the community schools. A special feature of the meeting was Miss Signe Bergman's interesting speech on the Suffrage movement in England, her account of the working methods of the W.S.P.U. evoking expressions of gratitude for the example set by them. Militant methods have not yet been adopted in Sweden, but the unceasing work and enthusiasm of the W.S.P.U. in the face of all risks has aroused a feeling of widespread admiration. A paper has been started in Stockholm under the title of *Rösträtt för Kvinnor*, which is Swedish for "Votes for Women."

Miss Vida Goldstein has taken out the first woman's elector's right under the new Adult Suffrage Act in Victoria.

Mrs. R. H. Murphy, treasurer to the Shire of Wedonga, Victoria, was among the successful candidates at the recent examination held by the municipal clerks' board, and is, therefore, entitled to hold the office of municipal clerk, under the provisions of the Local Government Act. Mrs. Murphy is the second lady in Victoria to pass the examination, the first being Miss McNeill, the acting town clerk of Ararat, from whom Mrs. Murphy has received a congratulatory message.

WOMEN IN COUNCIL.

Among other subjects before the International Council of Women at Toronto, the Suffrage question has for the first time been discussed. A resolution was passed in favour of equal political rights for men and women.

MARRIED WOMEN TEACHERS.

A Successful Fight Against Injustice.

Mrs. Stansfield has won her case for the present against the Warrington Corporation, which sought to dismiss her, after nearly twenty years' excellent service, on the sole ground that she was married. The result is another instance of what can be accomplished by courage and energy and a determination to fight against injustice at all costs.

It will be remembered that some months ago various education authorities decided to abolish married women teachers from the elementary schools, and a great protest meeting was held in London. Among others, the Warrington Education Committee decided a few months ago to give three months' notice to all the married lady teachers in their employ, but subsequently they made exceptions in the cases of several teachers who were able to adduce special reasons for the continuance of their services. The National Union of Teachers took up the matter on behalf of two of their members—Mrs. Stansfield and Mrs. Grounds—who had received notice, and an application for an interlocutory injunction to restrain the committee from giving effect to the notices pending the trial of an action for a permanent injunction was down for hearing in the Chancery Division.

The members of the Warrington Education Committee hastily summoned a meeting, and, acting on counsel's advice, withdrew the notices in these cases, but did not decide upon any action with regard to the other married lady teachers who received notice. The situation is rendered additionally interesting by the fact that several of the teachers, on hearing of the committee's intention to dispense with their services, voluntarily sent in their resignations.

Mrs. Stansfield and Mrs. Grounds are to be congratulated on the courageous stand they have taken up and on its triumphant result.

Marriage and Professional Work.

Before the summonses were withdrawn, Mrs. Stansfield had already written to *VOTES FOR WOMEN* on the very interesting point of marriage *versus* work:—

"A correspondent has written to me asking on what terms I obtained leave of absence, and for how long, when my two children were born. I am quite aware of the view held by many that it is impossible for a married woman teacher to do her duty both to her children and her profession. I can, however, prove from my own experience—which, I believe, is common to many—that, given certain conditions, it is quite possible to do so, and only where these conditions are found would I contend for the retention of a married teacher at a certain period of her life.

"I have always enjoyed magnificent health, and my children have inherited the same. My housekeeper, but two years my junior, came to me at the time of my marriage, and has been my faithful and devoted servant and friend ever since. She has been a second mother to my children, and has found with us a real home. The births of my children necessitated three months' leave of absence from school, and for this period I paid a fully qualified substitute. At the end of one month after the birth of each I was quite fit to resume my duties, and, with one exception, I have not needed the services of a medical man since. I engaged a bright, reliable girl, an old scholar, as nurse for each of my little ones, and under the guidance and training of my housekeeper both these girls became faithful servants in other families, when their charges had outgrown the need of their care. I nursed both my children for the first few months of their lives, taking full charge of them from 6 p.m. until 7.30 a.m. Perhaps this was the hardest period of my life, but it was also the happiest, and I must claim the feelings of motherhood

and the knowledge of child-life thus gained as an asset in dealing with the young which no other can equal.

"Only on one occasion have I been absent from school on account of my own children since the time of their births. At five years of age my daughter had an attack of meningitis—the one serious illness we have experienced—and this kept me away from school for a fortnight, and was the means of revealing to me the sympathy and affection of all connected with my work. Although my husband and I have each been in large schools all our married lives, no infectious complaint except measles has invaded our home, and, with this exception, our children have not been absent from school a week through illness. I say this in a spirit of true thankfulness, and as a proof that they have not suffered through my professional work. Indeed, they have very decided views of their own that it is quite the opposite.

"With regard to my school, I could, if necessary, send a record of its work to show that it, too, has not suffered through having a wife and mother at its head. Both Government and diocesan reports prove this, but what I value far more is the testimony of past and present teachers and scholars, and the loyal stand made at this juncture by the school managers on my behalf."

Legal Proceedings.

The dismissals having been withdrawn, the legal proceedings in the Chancery Division were necessarily merely formal.

Sir R. Finlay, on behalf of Mrs. Stansfield and Mrs. Grounds, applied for an interlocutory injunction restraining the Corporation from proceeding upon a notice discharging Mrs. Stansfield from her post as teacher in the defendants' school at Warrington.

Mr. Sargent said he appeared in both actions for the Corporation. His learned friend was no doubt aware that the notices sent to the plaintiffs had been withdrawn. Under these circumstances, he would suggest that the only order to be made on the motion should be costs in the action.

Sir R. Finlay thought his learned friend ought to give an undertaking that no other notice of dismissal would be served, pending the hearing of the action.

Mr. Sargent said he could not do that. The Town Clerk assured him that there was no intention or threat of giving another notice. There might be a further question, which could not be determined that day, as to whether the plaintiffs had any right to sue, but for the moment the notices had been withdrawn, and there was no intention of renewing them.

Sir R. Finlay asked for more than that. Mrs. Stansfield, he said, was dismissed on the ground that she was a married woman, in pursuance of a resolution passed by the local education authority. She must have some security that dismissal would not be served again when the motion was withdrawn.

Mr. Sargent, replying to his lordship, said the only ground of the notice was that the teachers were married women. He could not give an undertaking not to give notice on that ground pending the hearing of the action, but, so far as he knew, nothing would be done which would cause any application to be necessary in the long vacation.

Sir R. Finlay, having regard to what had been said, and to the fact that the Corporation, if they did anything of the kind, would find themselves in an unenviable position, said he accepted the view that plaintiffs might feel assured that nothing would be done pending the hearing of the action. He understood this applied to both actions. He added that the question raised was whether it was "intra vires" of the Corporation to give notice of dismissal solely on the ground that the teacher is a married woman. There was no other sort of question. On the contrary, the absolute efficiency of the plaintiffs and their high character in every respect were beyond all question. Mr. Sargent quite assented to that.

Mr. Northcote said he appeared for the foundation managers, who altogether opposed the dismissal of these ladies. He asked if his clients could be dismissed from the action.

Sir R. Finlay could not agree, and his lordship said there would be no order on the motion except that the costs be costs in the action.

Mrs. Stansfield and Mrs. Grounds are, therefore, for the present secure in their positions, and the whole question will be threshed out in the Courts in due course.

THE HUNGER STRIKE IN HOLLOWAY.

Twelve Prisoners Released after Terrible Experiences.

At tremendous cost, twelve of the prisoners convicted on July 12, in connection with the demonstration on June 29, have fought their way to liberty.

The names of the heroic women who have been so released are Miss Gladys Roberts, Miss Florence Cooke, Miss Elsie Mackenzie, Mrs. Holtwhite Simmons, Miss Carwin, Miss Ada Wright, Miss Dove-Willcox, Miss Garnett, Miss Mary Allen, Mrs. Bouvier, Miss Irene Spong, and Miss Kathleen Brown.

The story of the dramatic struggle by which they obtained their liberty is one that cannot fail to reach the hearts of all who read it, who will understand that the spirit prompting these women is the spirit of which the martyrs and heroes of old were made, and is the spirit which will overcome all the obstacles the Government and the authorities may oppose to justice.

In last week's issue of *VOTES FOR WOMEN* an account was given of the protest which these women had made on entering prison, and of the petition which they had sent to Mr. Herbert Gladstone to be transferred from the second division, into which the magistrate had placed them, to the first division, into which political prisoners have a right to be placed. The reply came on Wednesday from Mr. Herbert Gladstone. He refused to interfere, saying that he saw no reason whatever why the decision of the magistrate should not be adhered to. In the meantime an attempt had been made to enforce the ordinary prison regulations against the prisoners. They had been shut up in cells, refused writing materials, and the privileges of political prisoners. They had accordingly rebelled. They had refused to clear up their cells or to carry out the orders of the wardresses. They had also broken the windows in their cells, and through these they had had the opportunity of conversing with Mrs. Take, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, and other members of the Union who were able to get a glimpse of them from a neighbour's window.

The Visiting Magistrates.

On Wednesday afternoon they were brought, one at a time, before the visiting magistrates. The Governor, the matron, and the wardresses gave their evidence, and then the prisoners were called in and asked whether they had any reason to give why they should not be punished for mutiny. Each in turn justified her action on the ground that they had been refused the treatment to which they were entitled as political prisoners. The attempt, they said, which was being made by the authorities to coerce them by treating them as ordinary criminals was contrary to the practice of civilised nations, and not only on behalf of themselves, but on behalf of all political offenders to come after them, they were determined to make a stand against it. The magistrates refused to recognise this plea, and ordered punishments to be inflicted on the prisoners ranging from seven to ten days' close confinement.

Five Days in a Dungeon.

The nature of this punishment can be, to some extent, understood from the graphic description given by Miss Florence Cooke on the morning after her release.

"I shall never forget," she said, "the horrible place into which I was taken. When I saw the damp underground dungeon into which they led me, I could have cried bitterly, but somehow the spirit always comes to you when you are fighting a fight for principle, and I determined to stand my ground. The place was horribly dirty, and full of all kinds of germs. There was scarcely any ventilation, and no light

except that which came from a thick skylight in the ceiling, so that the place was nearly dark. The smell of the cell got into all my clothes, and it is in my nostrils to-day; I cannot get rid of it. The only bed in the room was a piece of wood let into the wall.

"For sleeping at night a mattress was given me and some rugs, but these and all the utensils in my room smelt horribly, and were unfit for use. The whole place seemed to me as though it had not been used for a very long time, and was dank and damp. I said to the Governor, 'The spirit of the Suffragettes is strong enough to stand up even against this place, but it is wrong that there should be such places to-day; they would drive any ordinary person mad.' I saw that all means of protest had been taken from me except one, and that was to do what Miss Wallace Dunlop had done, and refuse to take any food.

Five Days and Six Hours Without Food.

"The hardest time was the first twenty-four hours. Milk was brought to me, which I felt I could have taken very willingly, but I put it from me. Then the wardress brought me in some food. I said to her, 'Will you please take that out.' She refused. I, therefore, took the tin in which it was and rolled it out of the cell, and what was in it went upon the ground. I see that a paragraph appeared in the papers saying that one of us threw our cocoa at the wardress. I was particularly careful in what I did to be polite, and I believe that all the other Suffragettes were the same.

"On Friday I took to my bed, and the doctor told me that if I persisted I should get a fever; but I was absolutely determined to do my part at whatever sacrifice, and I told the Governor that so long as I was responsible for my action I should refuse to take any food. I also told the doctor that I would not allow myself to be fed through the nostrils. I told him that I knew this was illegal.

"On Sunday night I was taken to the hospital, and there a fresh effort was made to get me to take food. Medicine was brought to me, which I absolutely refused, knowing that it was either food in disguise or else intended to aggravate my hunger. On Monday afternoon my head felt exceedingly bad, and I felt that I hardly knew what I was doing, but I determined that I would not give in.

"In the evening the Governor came to me and said, 'Be very calm.' I said to him, 'There is a Supreme Power which gives us strength to bear whatever comes to us.' He said, 'I have orders to release you,' and I said to him, 'Does Mr. Gladstone prefer this to doing us justice?'

"I am glad to have gone through this week in Holloway. I am thankful to know what exists in prison, and what ought not to be allowed to exist a day longer. I also know that the spirit that is in women is stronger than the authorities, and that we can compel them to do the right thing and give us what is just."

Others of the prisoners who have been released give further details of the treatment in prison. Miss Gladys Roberts, who has been worn almost to a skeleton by her treatment, says that an attempt was made to get her to promise not to break any further windows in her cell, but this promise she absolutely refused to give.

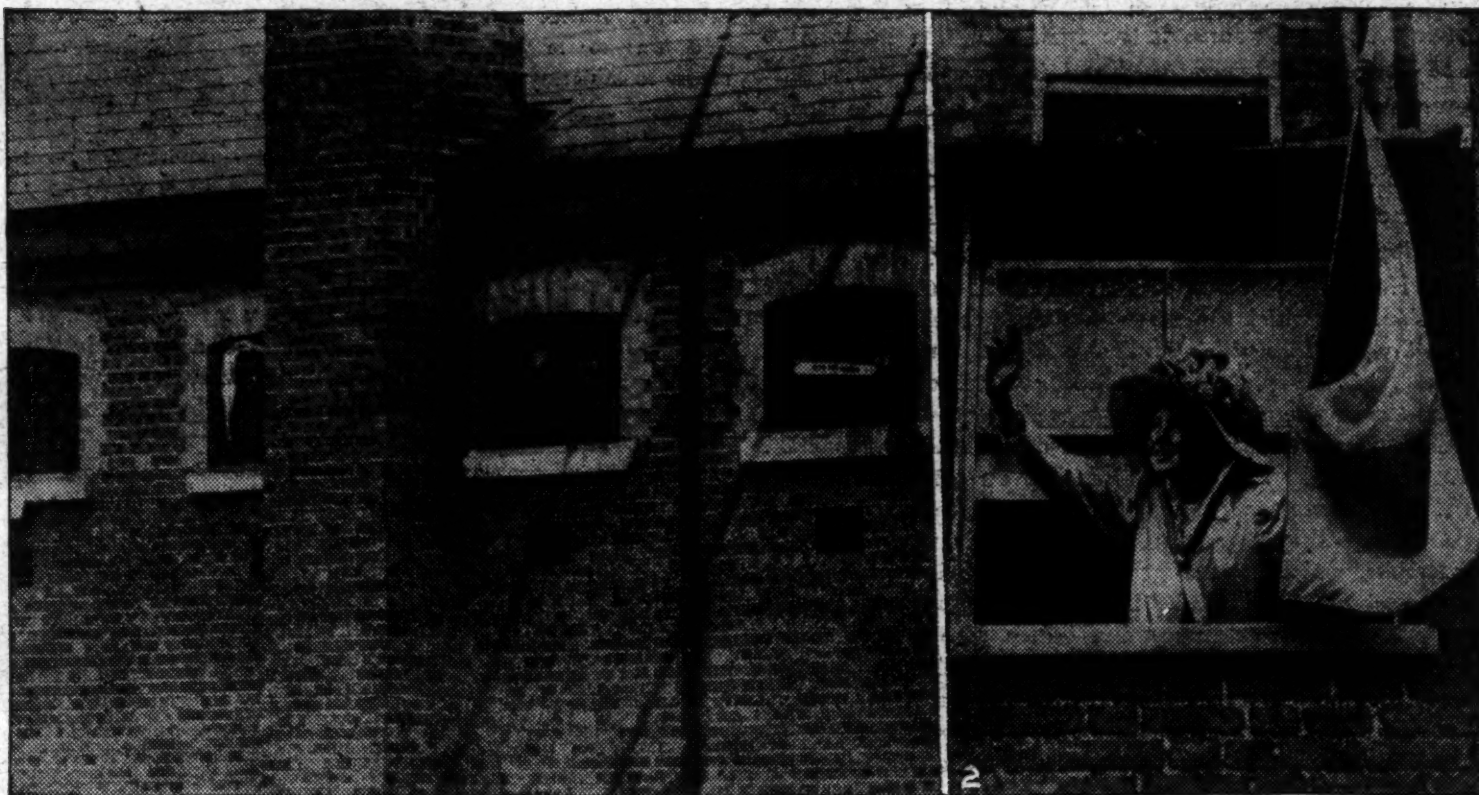
Mrs. Holtwhite Simmons describes the horrible nature of the utensils used in the dungeons, and exhibited a small piece of her indiarubber "water-glass," which she had torn up out of protest against the coercion which was being brought to bear upon her. All the prisoners, who have been so far released, are terribly weak after their suffering, many of them saying that when they lie down, even on a bed, it is as though they were lying on iron beams. But they are triumphant with having carried their magnificent protest to

a successful issue, and having defeated the Government through its fear of rousing still further the hostility of the people of the country.

But what of their brave comrades, who are still left within prison cells? No news has come through with regard to them. Some of them, we know, are engaged upon the same heroic struggle undertaken by those who have been already released.

Will the Government set them at liberty? We do not know. The mystery of the cruel prison bars hangs over them all. The tyranny of the wicked prison dungeon haunts us. We cry to the Government, "Away with this iniquity. Do justice to women. Come into line with the civilised nations of the earth. Remember that if you refuse, the day of your *Nemesis* is near at hand."

permit the suffrage agitation, with its accompanying imprisonment of educated and honourable women, to go on. Every rational person knows that the vote will have to be conceded to women on the same terms as men. . . . But as women have carried on a quiet agitation for the vote for fifty years without attracting attention, and as working-class men could not obtain a vote until they tore down the railings of Hyde Park and threatened to do other similar things, the objections made in some quarters to the action of the active Suffragists are puerile. These people are only doing what men did, and what men would do again if they were placed in the same position, and they are probably taking the only course that would have compelled the party politician to attend to their claims. . . . Unfortunately, however, the continued imprisonment of active Suffragists for carrying on a political and legitimate agitation is degrading the judicial system of the country and lowering the respect that every right-minded person ought to feel for the administration of the law. For this the present Government is primarily responsible, and it is not the least of the many ill services the Government has done the country.—*Nottingham Guardian*.



[By Courtesy of the "Daily Mirror."]

Miss Christabel Pankhurst and the Prisoners Exchanging Signals.

PRESS EXTRACTS.

Legally, the women clearly have a case. Lord Robert Cecil has argued it, and it has now gone to a higher Court on appeal. It passes our comprehension to understand how such an "offence" as this can be regarded as dishonourable or criminal, or otherwise than political. . . . An offence is political, as the definition ran in the classical extradition case, when it is done with a "political object." The inference is that if punishment is necessary—and to say that it is would be to prejudge the whole case as to the right of access to Ministers—it ought not to be a punishment which degrades or carries with it the stamp of criminality. Now the distinction between the first and the second divisions is not merely that the conditions of the first are comparatively easy and lenient. It is also that the second inflicts, and is meant to inflict, humiliation. The women, it seems to us, in this and previous cases, have a right to be placed in the first division, and we cannot wonder that they insist on their right. The responsibility cannot be thrown wholly on the magistrate. Mr. Gladstone did intervene to move Mrs. Cobden Sanderson and others from the second to the first division. He has also interfered to move a woman from the third to the second division. He ought to interfere again and finally. One's opinion on the suffrage or on the methods of the militants is quite irrelevant to this issue. It is simply a case for asserting an elementary usage common to all civilised countries.—*Daily News*.

Suffragists in Prison.

It would be interesting to know how long party politicians, terrified lest their own particular party interests should suffer, will

The war of the Suffragettes, which has earned them imprisonment in many instances, shows no sign of abating in its vigour or its aggressive vitality. —*Cork Examiner*.

The Suffragettes in Holloway Gaol do not appear to be depressed by their surroundings. . . . The revolt of the Suffragettes in gaol is a real peril. —*Cork Examiner*.

Imagine an Amazonian regiment of fourteen "standing all together" in absolute defiance. . . . We cannot help admiring their pluck. —*Glasgow Evening Citizen*.

Some forty years ago or so, when O'Donovan Rossa was serving a term of penal servitude as a Fenian in Millbank Prison (which stood on the site of the Tate Gallery), he persistently broke the prison regulations as a protest against treatment that was proved before a Parliamentary Committee to have been undoubtedly harsh. —*Daily News*.

It is worthy of note that, while the police are devoting so great attention to the women who are endeavouring to explain their fair claims to members of Parliament and statesmen, the police do not interfere with what is described as peaceful picketing by men. . . . If peaceful picketing by men is permitted and carried on under the protection of the police, it is passing strange that women should be haled off to police courts and condemned to imprisonment as second division misdemeanants. . . . The methods which the police are being compelled to adopt must in the long run aid the workers in the cause of women's suffrage. —*Dundee Evening Telegraph*.

One remembers official helplessness in the face of the calm pertinacity of Miss M. Wallace-Dunlop, who recently secured release by refusing to eat for four days and four nights at a stretch, and making it clear that she was quite prepared to starve to death. —*Sheffield Independent*.

COMMENTS OF THE PRESS.

The Flowing Tide.

The star of the Suffragettes is again in the ascendant. Three months ago the movement had reached its lowest ebb, but to-day the tide is flowing with them. Nobody can doubt that the incidents of the last few weeks have uniformly turned out successful: the recommendation to appeal against the decision of the magistrate at Bow Street on Friday marks the beginning of the legal phase of the question. A movement must be not only serious but on the eve of success before lawyers will touch it. The appeal to the King was also a good stroke. Rather than have the King bothered, public opinion will abolish the Censorship and give Votes to Women. Miss Wallace-Dunlop's ninety-one hours' fast resulting in her discharge from prison was a masterpiece of ingenuity and tenacity: the public understands hunger. Mr. Herbert Gladstone was driven to prophesying a speedy and a happy issue out of all his afflictions: and Mr. Herbert Samuel has been driven to romance.

For romance it certainly was on Mr. Samuel's part to attribute the decline in his majority in the Cleveland division to everything but the efforts of the Suffragettes. As a matter of fact, there was only one other subject of discussion in the constituency besides the Budget, and that was Woman's Suffrage. Are we to suppose that Mr. Samuel devoted several of his addresses to a question that finally had no influence whatever on the poll? Samuel, Samuel, where art thou in thy calculations?

Mr. Asquith continues to maintain the stiff upper lip that makes an English statesman: he still refuses to receive any deputation of women. In his view "no public interest would be served" by any such thing. But would not the saving of £20,000 on special police duty—the sum just charged to the London County Council—be to the "public interest"? Is not the abolition of the periodical scenes outside (and inside) Westminster to the public interest? Thirteen times have the women endeavoured to interview Mr. Asquith, and not once since he has been Premier has he met them. Is it to the public interest that a Premier should set an example of boorishness?

—*The New Age*.

Refusal of a Schoolroom.

Apart from this somewhat amusing misunderstanding, there is the serious issue of principle raised. If disapproval of the action of the Women's Social and Political Union is to be a reason for debarring them from the use of public rooms for public meetings, where is the discrimination to stop? There is the possibility of a serious infringement of public rights in this beginning of discrimination. The public body responsible for these public rooms, which in many places are the only available places of meeting in our villages, has a perfect right to safeguard itself by requiring from those who use the rooms a reliable guarantee against damage. But, subject to that safeguard, it should be absolutely impartial in its dealing with every phase and aspect of public thought and agitation.

—*East Anglian Daily Times*.

The comical misunderstanding by which the National Union of Women Suffrage Societies was barred out, by the Norfolk Education Committee, from the use of any Norfolk schools for public meetings, on the ground of their being an "unruly lot," shows how completely the militant women of the Women's Social and Political Union have come to stand in the public mind for everything associated with the Women's Suffrage movement. . . . We are glad to see that the County Council, with practical unanimity, referred back to the Education Committee for reconsideration the question of letting the schoolrooms for Women's Suffrage meetings. . . . This is not a matter of whether one is or is not in favour of a particular movement, but a matter of the public right of free speech and free discussion. . . . The real test of whether a man has the principle of free speech at heart is that he is prepared to fight for it on behalf of movements which he disapproves. . . . The idea ought to be obsolete in the twentieth century of putting any obstacles in the way of the freest and fullest discussion of public affairs. . . . In most villages the schoolroom is the only available room for meetings, and therefore to refuse the schoolroom is, in its practical effect, to deny the right of public meeting. . . . If every political party against whom it could be shown that some of its irresponsible members have on some occasions allowed their excitement to get the better of them at a public meeting were to be denied the use of the schools, there would be no political meetings of any party in the villages. The Women's Suffrage movement

. . . in the main is a serious and responsible political movement, with as rightful a claim to put its case before the public as any other political movement.

—*Eastern Daily Press*.

The Duty of Liberals.

We are glad that in the President's speech to the National Liberal Federation at Southport yesterday both Home Rule and Women's Suffrage had their place. . . . We would go further than Sir William Angus, and urge Liberals not only to "acquiesce in" Women's Suffrage, but to do their best to deliver the question from the atmosphere of somewhat somnolent acquiescence in which it was enveloped in so many constituencies at the last general election. In constituency after constituency it was assented to by candidates, but there was little or no driving power either in the demand for that assent or in the feeling which the assent expressed. Hence the present paradoxical situation of a Cabinet really rather more favourable to Women's Suffrage than its following in Parliament, but chilled by the sense that its "mandate" on the question was a perfunctory, half-meant one, and that if it pressed the matter forward it might be repudiated. That mandate has to be made the kind of living, vehement mandate that this Government got from the country to turn the Chinese out of the Rand mines, and where an active Liberal fully believes in the rightness of enfranchising women he ought to do his share in rescuing the subject from the kind of death-in-life that has been its usual fate at general elections and in protecting it from the ridicule and contempt with which mock-rioting threatens it. Women's Suffrage, to come into existence, must be voted by a House of Commons in which a majority feel that they are as deeply committed to it as to their party's chief announced measures; that their vote cannot be plausibly annulled by the House of Lords on the excuse that the measure was not seriously "before the country"; and that when they go to their constituents they can present themselves as agents who have carried out a positive instruction on a vital point. That means a very heavy immediate call for spade work, which should not be wholly left to the special Women's Suffrage organisations; Liberal Ministers should help to embed the question in the party programme; Liberal officials should press it like the taxing of site values or the abolition of plural voting; above all, the education of the present male voter should be heartily undertaken by Liberal speakers; if once his acquiescence becomes eager support the thing is done, and we cease to lag behind New Zealand. And if the thing is right in itself, what will it matter if somebody says we did it because she wrapped a brick in paper and threw it through a pane of glass?

—*Manchester Guardian*.

Is England Dead?

England is not dead. With Votes for Women booming in our ears, deaf indeed should we be did we not understand the meaning of this call. Were the entire male population all Sir C. A. Elliotts, scuttling behind the petticoats of the women, there would be no fear of decay in a land which holds the women who are pressing forward with irresistible strength for recognition. These brave women are everywhere to be found defying slander, malice, indifference. In the Lancashire mills the women struggling for mere subsistence are among the most determined upholders of women's freedom; go to-day into a remote hamlet village, and you will find the Suffragettes. They have swept through the land, and look forward with unbounded confidence.

—*The New Age*.

Mr. John Burns's Struggle with Policemen.

It is quite true that some of the women leaders have adopted strong methods. But, as I have more than once said in this column, nothing they have done has been half so violent as John Burns's struggle with policemen in Trafalgar Square twenty-three years ago. and John is an honourable—indeed, a Right Hon. gent.! If the Chartists, of whom I used to hear from my father, had possessed half the persistence and organising power of the female exponents of Woman Suffrage, the "People's Charter" would have become an accomplished fact sixty years ago.

—*Weekly Budget*.

Would America Imprison Women?

The American delegates who attended the International Congress of Women in London have gone home with the determination to urge American women to adopt more vigorous tactics in their campaign for the Suffrage. That is the best answer to those who persist in asserting that the Suffragettes have compromised the cause. It is doubtful, however, whether the American Courts will venture to clap American women into prison, no matter what militant tactics they may pursue.

—*Review of Reviews*.

Princess Victoria bought several articles in the Women's Palace at the White City. These included two porcelain dogs underneath which was inscribed the legend "Votes for Women."

—*Daily Chronicle*.

OUR POST BOX.

"A CONVERT TO THE CAUSE."

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

DEAR SIR,—That the chaplain of the Royal Chapel of the Savoy should have become a convert to the cause is excellent news, but that he should have announced that conversion publicly is still better. Let us hope that many more of the Anglican clergy, who sympathise with the movement and approve militant methods, will follow Mr. Chapman's first-rate example and make a point of publishing the fact of their adhesion to a cause which should appeal in a very special manner to ministers of religion of whatever creed, for religion involves not merely the preaching but the practice of justice.

No course of sermons should now be completed without some sound and solid advice on the duty we men owe to women, and on the obligation we inherit of placing those who, in so many ways, are superior to us, at least in a position of equality with ourselves, as free-born human beings and fellow citizens. There is no argument worth a pinch of snuff against Woman Suffrage, and there are abundant and overwhelming arguments in its support which no member of our present chivalrous and cultivated Cabinet can attempt to refute.

Mr. Asquith's conduct towards the movement is incomprehensible, in view of the fact that he is not popularly credited with any particular dislike of women, nor with any lack of admiration for or appreciation of their excellences! . . . Lack of a sense of chivalry is much to be deplored in those who, after all, owe their extraordinary good fortune to the fact that they each possessed a mother!

ARNOLD H. MATHEW.

(Old Catholic Bishop.)

151, Fellows Road, S. Hampstead, N.W.

[The writer is the author of "Woman Suffrage," to be had of the Woman's Press, price 1s.]

SUFFRAGE IN OTTAWA.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

DEAR SIR,—We know by experience that a Suffragette creates more interest, curiosity, rage, and enthusiasm than any other human being. It is so in Ottawa.

Soon after my arrival I found an opportunity to address a drawing-room meeting composed of members of the Mothers' Union. It was a very august assembly, and although I spoke much longer than the allotted time, considerable interest was shown and some good questions asked at the close. Then the local branch of the Equal Suffrage Association organised a garden meeting for me. Dr. Amelia Yeomans—who has all her life worked for the Suffrage, and is the president of the Manitoba branch of the Equal Suffrage Association—presided and made a beautiful opening speech. Mrs. Brown, her daughter (president of the Ottawa branch), a clever and ardent advocate, also spoke. The audience welcomed me with much interest and enthusiasm, and I was asked a number of good questions at the end. I have found some enthusiasts who may join us in England. I also found subscribers to the paper.

At the garden party at Government House, to which the delegates to the International Congress of Women were invited, our colours—which I wore—aroused more interest than any of the colours worn by the delegates. Lady Aberdeen (as president of the International Council of Women) assisted Her Excellency in receiving.

I have had numerous interviews on the question of Votes for Women, and long, good notices in all the papers.—Yours, etc.,

MARY KEEGAN.

SELLING "VOTES FOR WOMEN."

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

DEAR SIR,—Recently I had my first experience of selling VOTES FOR WOMEN in Manchester. Several of my friends told me it was "lowering my dignity"; however, I think I may say that I received all the courtesy that is due to a woman from a man. Few failed to salute in answer to my request, even if they did not buy. One pleasant incident gave me great courage. A big, burly man came along. I summoned up courage once more and proffered my paper with the usual request, "Will you buy VOTES FOR WOMEN?"

The man came to a standstill and, raising his hat, he said, "I will buy one, and buy it with very great pleasure, for I come from a country where the women have the vote, and I know the good of it!"—Yours, etc.,

ETHEL PARKER.

FROM FAR PERU.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

DEAR SIR,—I have received an interesting letter from far Peru. My youngest brother, who is serving his apprenticeship in a sailing vessel, and who was much interested in the Suffrage question before leaving home, writes as follows:—"The news of the Suffragettes is simply splendid, and is a fair knock-out blow to the Opposition Party here, i.e., the starboard watch. I have nearly converted my watch, but not quite. I hope Lloyd George is getting it hot. . . ." In a previous letter from Australia he says, "What have the Suffragettes been doing that they are not in yet? I am not without supporters in the messroom, and we have some splendid political debates in the dinner hour. They generally end in a kind of free fight in jujitsu."—Yours, etc.,

HAZEL INGLIS.

43, Birdhurst Rise, S. Croydon, Surrey.

POINTS FROM LETTERS RECEIVED.

Mr. A. W. Gattie, 13, Ladbroke Grove, W., is writing to Mr. Asquith that if he persists in his unreasonable attitude towards Woman Suffrage he will refrain from voting at the next General Election. He suggests that canvassers might be sent from house to house to urge voters to write in similar terms.

M. E. Chapple makes an appeal to members to wear the colours constantly in everyday life. She points out that it would be an encouragement and a help to women to be able to recognise sympathisers by this sign, and the prevalence of the colours would have a good effect in showing the public the strength of the movement.

One of the ladies who went to prison in February for the cause has a young brother, aged thirteen, of whom she is justly proud. Impervious to the ridicule of his fellows, which is usually so terrible to the small boy, he has worn his badge fearlessly at his school. The day after she was sent to prison the schoolboys called after him, "Who has got a sister a gaolbird?" But he looked at them quietly and said, "Peter went to prison."

Mr. Vercoe Abbott, of Guilford Street, writes that he was so distressed by the attitude of the police to the women on the occasion of the recent deputation that it will prevent his working in future, as he has done in the past, as a Liberal election agent. He has become an enthusiastic supporter of the women's cause.

A member of the W.S.P.U. writes that she has the promise of six votes for the General Election. If all our thousands of members did the same it would have an appreciable influence on public opinion.

A lady writes from Skelton-in-Cleveland, enclosing her membership card and entrance fee for the N.W.S.P.U. "My husband and I," she says, "have always been advocates of Votes for Women, but up to the time of your workers coming into Cleveland we did not approve of 'militant tactics.' We now find that it was simply because we did not understand—did not realise the absolute necessity and the entire justification which exists for them. My domestic ties prevent my taking an active part, but I shall be glad to subscribe a guinea a year to your funds, and have already paid my first subscription to Dr. Fairfield."

A LEAGUE OF ACTION.

A great many correspondents write approving of "F. W.'s" recent proposal to form a "League of Action," the members of which should withdraw their subscriptions from various societies and devote them for the present to the woman's cause. Isabel Abraham encloses 5s. withdrawn from a society "till we have the vote"; V. B. knows of a society which loses £500 a year till women are enfranchised; Mrs. K. Raleigh is refusing any new appeals from societies; L. E. Turquand makes a point of refusing subscriptions to societies with which Cabinet Ministers are connected; Mrs. Turner Farley and G. S. B. have refused subscriptions to institutions which have no women on their boards of management; Miss J. has done the same in the case of a well-known London institution; Mrs. Penn Gaskell and Mrs. Roberts are giving up newspapers that boycott suffrage news and explaining to the editor the reason.

EXHIBITION TEA SETS.

Mrs. Frederick Edwards asks us to announce that all the tea sets of exhibition china have now been dispatched. She asks anyone who has not received what was ordered kindly to communicate with her at 63, Lancaster Gate, W.

The National Women's Social & Political Union.

OFFICE:

4, CLEMENTS INN, STRAND, W.C.

Telegrams:—"WOSPOLU, LONDON." Telephone: Holborn 2724 (three line)
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Mrs. PANKHURST,

Founder and Hon. Sec.

Mrs. PETHICK LAWRENCE,

Hon. Treasurer.

Mrs. TUKE,

Joint Hon. Sec.

Miss CHRISTABEL PANKHURST

Organising Sec.

The Women's Social and Political Union are NOT asking for a vote for every woman, but simply that sex shall cease to be a disqualification for the franchise.

At present men who pay rates and taxes, who are owners occupiers, lodgers, or have the service or university franchise possess the Parliamentary vote. The Women's Social and Political Union claim that women who fulfill the same conditions shall also enjoy the franchise.

It is estimated that when this claim has been conceded, about a million and a quarter women will possess the vote, in addition to the seven and a-half million men who are at present enfranchised.

The Women's Social and Political Union claim that a simple measure, giving the vote to women on these terms, shall be passed immediately.

COERCION DEFEATED.

The one thought uppermost in the minds of the members of the Women's Social and Political Union is the revolt in prison made by our comrades, who, in addition to defying the regulations unsuited to their condition as political prisoners, are following Miss Wallace Dunlop's example and are carrying through the "hunger strike." One by one they are fighting their way out of prison. The spiritual force which they are exerting is so great that prison walls are rent, prison gates forced open, and they emerge free in body, as they have never for an instant ceased to be in soul. Those who, in these latter days, are privileged to witness this triumph of the spiritual over the physical, understand now as never before the true meaning and manner of the miracles of old times, and we reverence the divine power which, as these comrades of ours have taught us, is entrusted now, as in the past, to human beings that they may work miracles in the pursuit of great ends.

Before going further, let us consider what was the immediate and definite object which these prisoners wished to attain by means of their revolt. They sought to have accorded to them the privileges due to political prisoners. There are people who deny that the Suffragists arrested in the course of the militant agitation are political offenders, but these people speak in ignorance of what a political offence is. The definition of such an offence was given by the judges in the case of *In re Castioni*, reported on page 36 of the second edition of Pitt Cobbett's "Leading Cases on International Law." This was the case of a Swiss subject, by name Castioni, who had been arrested in England, at the requisition of the Swiss Government, on a charge of murder. His extradition having been demanded, it became the duty of the Court of Queen's Bench to consider whether Castioni ought to be extradited or not. The main issue in the case was whether the offence was one of a political character, for the commission of which the prisoner would not be liable to extradition under the provisions of the Extradition Act of 1870. The judges held unanimously that crimes otherwise extraditable became political offences when incidental to, and forming

part of, political disturbances. Having to determine under what circumstances an offence otherwise extraditable (such as murder) becomes a political offence, they held that the act must form part of, or be incidental to, a political disturbance; that it must be done in the belief that it promotes the political end in view. If the act is prompted by a genuine political motive, and is incidental to a genuine political rising, it is deemed to be political in its character. Imprisoned Suffragists may well ask why, if assassination committed in another country is to go unpunished because of the political motive of the assassin, women in this country, charged with an offence of a merely technical kind, also done with a political motive, should be imprisoned as common criminals. It should be noticed that the political character of their offence is not advanced by Suffragists in the police-court as a reason why no punishment should be inflicted upon them; the only claim they make is that the character of their punishment should be different from that given to common criminals, and they quote in support of this view Prof. James Bryce's publicly expressed opinion that to treat political offenders as common criminals is a relapse into barbarism.

Some there are who approve the claim of Suffragists charged with obstruction of the police to be treated as political prisoners, but nevertheless argue that the fourteen Suffragists imprisoned on July 12 should not have accorded to them the privileges of political offenders, on the ground that these ladies, by throwing stones, committed an act of violence which cannot come within the category of political offences. These critics should remember that the violence done by the stone-throwers was purely technical, the damage caused being quite nominal, and the stones having been thrown when no injury to persons was possible. But the true answer to this argument that stone-throwers should not be treated as political offenders, is that the question of whether or no an offence is political depends, *not upon the character of the act, but upon the motive with which it is done.* This the case of *In re Castioni* makes perfectly plain. But let us take another concrete case, in which not a foreigner, but an English subject, was concerned. In 1896, Dr. Jameson was convicted of the very heinous offence of taking up arms against a friendly nation, and sentenced to a term of imprisonment. He was placed in the first division and treated as a political offender, notwithstanding the fact that his offence was far more serious than that with which our stone-throwers are charged, and notwithstanding the fact also that his action involved, not damage to a few panes of glass, but the shedding of human blood. Here is certainly a final answer to the contention that the stone-throwers are not political offenders.

Having thus established the right of the fourteen women in question to be treated as political prisoners, we may next consider what means, other than the desperate measures adopted by them, have been taken in the past to compel the Government to recognise that right. Suffragists themselves, members of the general public and individual members of Parliament, have made representations to the Home Secretary on this subject. The Liberal newspapers have addressed appeals to the Government to abandon their ill-Liberal practice of treating imprisoned Suffragists as common criminals. The Government have refused to abandon this vindictive policy; although evidently possessed by an uneasy sense that it must render them unpopular, they have, through the medium of the Home Secretary, declared that they are not responsible for this method of treating imprisoned Suffragists, and that it would, in fact, be wrong were they to interfere with the magisterial discretion in the matter. This trumpery and discreditable excuse has been brushed aside by the Liberal Press, notably by the *Manchester Guardian* and the *Daily News*, and it deceives no one.

Thus, every other attempt to overcome the Government having failed, the members of the Women's Social and Political Union decided to adopt militant methods inside Hollo-

way, in the belief that they would be as effective within prison as they are outside. This belief has been indeed justified by events, for now has come the complete breakdown of coercion as a means of crushing the militant Suffrage movement. Begun with the object of securing the recognition of our status as political offenders, the policy of protesting in prison, and more especially the policy of the "hunger strike," stand revealed to us as the weapons whereby the Government's methods of coercion may be altogether frustrated. For this wider purpose we held ourselves perfectly entitled to use the new prison methods, because, while it is undoubtedly wrong to deny to Suffragists the privileges of political offenders, by far the greater and the more fundamental wrong is to imprison them at all. Therefore, if and when it seems to us good, we shall refuse to submit to imprisonment, whether as political offenders or otherwise, and by means of the "hunger strike" we shall compel the Government to choose one of three alternatives: Either they must release Suffragist prisoners at the end of a few days, thus enabling them to take with impunity whatever militant measures they like, at Westminster or elsewhere; or they must let them die in prison—a course which would be, from their own point of view, politically dangerous; or they must give women the Vote, a solution of the difficulty which would meet with universal approval, and would best suit the convenience of the Government, of the Suffragists, and of the people as a whole.

Prison is *played out*—from the Government's point of view.

But it is necessary that all concerned should know the terrible price that our heroic comrades have had to pay for their victory, the price which all who follow where they have led will also have to pay. Let no one think that this triumph has been lightly or easily won! Those released from Holloway have told us something of their suffering, but because of their self-control, their stoicism, their selflessness, their gay, dauntless courage, they have not, we know, told us all. But the bare facts are enough. From the moment of entering Holloway to the moment of leaving it they were prevented from attending chapel and were allowed no exercise; they have been, in fact, for twenty-four hours in every day in solitary confinement. Not only so, but after two days the majority of them (all for whom there was accommodation, we understand) were placed in the punishment cells—badly lit, unclean, foul-smelling, noisome places, whose very existence is a disgrace to modern civilisation. Here these women remained day after day, starving the while, until, if not for very shame, at least in fear lest some injury should come to the prisoners which would shock and outrage the community, the Home Secretary ordered their release.

Martyrs! This is the name—never yet claimed by Suffragettes themselves—which opponents have given to them in would-be derision. The good, brave women who have just won their way to freedom would not claim that title even now, but we, their comrades, hail them as martyrs, for what is martyrdom if theirs is not? It is, at any rate, more nearly like martyrdom than anyone thought to see in this twentieth century. It seemed to us once impossible that the people of modern days could endure for their faith, religious or political, the tortures inflicted by cruel and brutal hands upon the martyrs of the past, but these comrades of ours have rebuked us for our want of faith in humanity, and have taught us that the women of this our own time have it in them to suffer cheerfully, and, if need were, to die for the cause which is dear to them.

Who is ready for the next deputation, for another deputation there will be when the time covered by the undertaking which at present binds us has run out? Who claims the honour of laying our demand for human rights before the Prime Minister? Who longs to show that the spirit of women has found new strength because of the sufferings endured by those to whom we do honour to-day? Let them send in their names!

Christabel Pankhurst.

THE TREATMENT OF POLITICAL PRISONERS.

THE OPINION OF A FORMER LIBERAL CABINET MINISTER.

In 1889, Professor James Bryce, M.P., afterwards Chief Secretary for Ireland, and now British Ambassador to Washington, wrote as follows in an introductory letter to Dr. George Sigerson's book, "Political Prisoners":—

My dear Sir,—I have read the details you give regarding the recent treatment of political prisoners in Ireland as compared with that followed in other countries not only with interest but with regret and shame, for I had not known how much the recent practice of the English Government in Ireland falls below that of other countries, and even below that of English authorities sixty years ago.

It is certainly not easy to find a satisfactory definition of a political offence, yet we all feel the difference between the ordinary criminal and those whose treatment you describe. Perhaps we may say that whenever the moral judgment of the community at large does not brand an offence as sordid and degrading, and does not feel the offence to be one which destroys its respect for the personal character of the prisoner, it may there be held that prison treatment ought to be different from that awarded to ordinary criminals. One reason for this view is that ordinary prison discipline is incomparably more severe and painful to the persons sentenced for offences of this nature than it is to the ordinary thief or forger.

A sentence nominally the same is really much harder. There is, however, another ground, and a stronger one, for condemning the methods followed of late years in Ireland. They are not only cruel; they are foolish and impolitic. They attempt to fly in the face of the general sentiment of mankind which recognises the wide difference between crimes which are always crimes and acts which, even if it is necessary to punish them, may be the result of mistaken views of right, and may hereafter be judged very differently from the way in which we judge them now. The time never comes when people venerate the memory of a thief or a forger as we venerate the memories of Sir Thomas More or Algernon Sidney, political offenders on whom the last penalty was inflicted with a more general concurrence of opinion than exists now as regards the Irish rebels of 1798 or the imprisoned Irish leaders of to-day. Experience has amply shown that to treat the political prisoner like the common criminal does not deprive him of the sympathies of those who agree with him politically, but may rather endear him further to them, and, at any rate, serve to embitter their feelings and stimulate them to unlawful reprisals. There is, I think, something mean in this attempt to humiliate men by treating them as already brutal, something unworthy of a great nation, something that lends colour to the belief, which till lately was so general in Ireland, that hereditary arrogance and hatred have had much to do with the character of English rule in Ireland, and are still more powerful factors than that vaunted regard for the interests of the whole United Kingdom which is so often on the lips of her present rulers. It is some little comfort to learn from your pages that this relapse into barbarism of which the Irish Government has been guilty, this vain attempt to degrade a cause by trying to degrade its leaders, did not proceed from the British Parliament, but from purblind officials of the ruling caste. It is still more consolatory to feel assured that such conduct has contributed to disgust the English and Scotch people with the way in which Ireland has been governed. You have rendered a great service by dealing so thoroughly with this subject, and have, I hope, given a final and fatal blow to a system for which England may well blush.

THE BYE-ELECTIONS.

Dumfries Burghs.

RESULT.

Mr. J. W. Gulland (Liberal) - - -	1,577
Mr. J. B. Duncan (Conservative) - - -	1,565
Liberal Majority - - -	292

The figures at the last election were:—Mr. John W. Gulland (Lib.), 2,085; Mr. Joseph J. Glover (Con.), 1,409. Liberal majority, 639.

Dumfries has not turned Mr. Gulland out, but Dumfries has gone a long way towards doing so at the call of the women. When it is remembered that the whole electorate only numbers 4,000, and that the majority has been reduced by over 300, it will be seen that the Government are no longer sure of their supporters even in Scotland. A few days more and the narrow majority of 292 would have given place to another victory "agin the Government."

(From Our Special Correspondent.)

Tuesday, July 20.

The Thames flows proudly to the sea,
Where royal cities stately stand,
But sweeter flows the Nith to me,
Where Cummins once had high command.

Dumfries, the land of Robert Burns, the theatre of many a stirring drama of Scotland's national history, owes much to a woman born in the twelfth century, who was destined to wield a very great influence on the fortunes of the town. This woman was Devorgilla, daughter of the Constable of Scotland, and wife of John Baliol, whose son claimed the Scottish crown in the reign of Edward I.

The Lady Devorgilla found it extremely inconvenient and troublesome to ford the River Nith in her journey from one castle to another. She constructed the bridge, therefore, which is known to-day as "The Old Bridge of Dumfries." "The New Bridge" was built in 1793, but a hundred years later it was widened and improved at the expense of Miss M'Kie, of the Moat House.

At the top of the High Street is a beautiful modern statue of Scotland's patriot bard. The sculptor is an Edinburgh lady. Thus women deserve well of Dumfries.

Upon the hills which surround the town has been fought again and again Scotland's battle for political liberty. Probably no church in the United Kingdom is so rich in memories of men and women who died for freedom as St. Michael's in Dumfries. A few paces from the grave of Robert Burns rises "The Martyr's Memorial," erected by the people here in admiration of those who died for conscience and country's sake in the days of the Scottish Covenanters.

And upon these tombstones you read of men who like William Grierson and William Welsh suffered unto death for the principles of the Reformation. Here is the grave of James Kirk, shot upon the sands of Dumfries in March, 1685. St. Mary's Church and graveyard occupy the site where the brother-in-law of Bruce was hanged. Horror still cleaves to the name of Sir Robert Grierson of Lag, foremost in those days of tyranny in "haling men and women to prison" for their political and religious convictions.

It is essentially fitting that in this town and in this part of the country sacred to memories of those who suffered for the great idea of liberty the political battle for women's freedom should be strenuously fought.

The Invasion.

It was half-past ten on Saturday night, July 10. The peaceful inhabitants of the place had settled down to their Sabbath repose after the week's work. Quiet and respectable citizens were abed in their houses. Suddenly there appeared upon the scene a party of eleven invaders, wearing the purple, white, and green, and bearing upon their persons the notorious device "Votes for Women." Suffragettes they were. They had come

post-haste from the Cleveland Division immediately upon the declaration of the poll in that constituency, bringing ungainly parcels of literature and stacks of banners, besides hand luggage of every description. Down the street of Dumfries they came, chattering, laughing, and staggering under their burdens. The belated foot passengers stopped to stare, then turned to follow and to see the end of this strange pilgrimage. Outside the "Queensberry Arms" Hotel they stopped. The door was shut for the night. But a good pull of the bell brought the sound of footsteps along the passage, the bolts were drawn back, and the astonished "boots" surveyed the throng. Behind him came the genial and kind-hearted mistress of the establishment. "Mercy me!" she cried. "Whaur do ye come frae? Wha brocht ye here? How many are ye?" "Eleven; there will be more coming next week." Eleven hungry and tired travellers wanting supper and rest! It was evident that they could not be turned from hospitable Scottish doors. "Whaur's Jeanie?" "Oh, Jeanie has gone to her bed." (Jeanie was the housemaid.) Well, the mistress and the boots turned to, and with laughter and confusion of voices and luggage, supper was laid on the table and rooms were prepared, and very soon the peace of the Sabbath had fallen upon everybody. Never were the night and day of rest more welcome to tired but satisfied workers.

Monday morning was given to preliminary organisation. Before that day was over the party had been divided up. Permanent workers had been stationed in each of the five burghs which make up the constituency, and motor-cars secured to take the speakers round from place to place. A splendid committee-room, with a large meeting-place, was taken for headquarters in Dumfries. This town is the largest centre, containing 2,000 voters. But the quarry workers in Kirkcudbright, thirty miles away, the miners twenty miles off in Sanquhar, the fishermen and farmers of the island of Arran, and Lochmaben, a tourist centre, where the people are reaping their summer season harvest, had each to be specially thought of. To all these men and women this great question of constitutional liberty had to be stated in a way which they could appreciate and understand.

An election in Scotland is a very different thing from an election in Yorkshire, Derbyshire, Lancashire, or London. Scotland is a hard nut to crack. There is no doubt about that. But the kernel is very good if you can crack the nut. And whatever the result of the present election the Suffragettes are going to crack it.

Everywhere the emissaries of the "Votes for Women" gospel are met by kindness; they receive a respectful and attentive hearing. It is very rarely that they meet with any argument against the principle of justice which they advocate. "Och, we ken it's richt!" That is what men say when at the close of a meeting questions are asked for.

They are impressed by the speeches and by the personality of the speakers. "Aye, lassie, we thocht ye were glaked (foolish), but ye raelly ken what ye're ta'kin' aboot."

They are shy about asking questions. I wondered at this, knowing that Scotsmen bear a reputation for being good hecklers. But it was explained to me in conversation with some of them at the close of a meeting. "The weemen are so quick with their answers; a man's like to mak a fule of himself." "Och, ye needna come dictating to us frae England," said one who had been listening to some straight speaking from "General" Drummond. It was an unlucky venture. "Mercy me, man, ye dinna ken whit ye're ta'king aboot. I'm no only Scotch, but Hielan'. Vill Gaelic eoham?" ("Can you speak Gaelic?") The Sassenach (Lowlander) collapsed, amid roars of laughter.

"I dinna ken what ye dae wi' ma man at the meetin's," said a woman living in a vennel (alley) near the fountains, "but when he doesna get the better o' you, he taks it oot o' me after."

The next night the "General" saw the man standing in her audience on the sands. And with mischief twinkling in her eyes she called for questions. "Noo, ye men, I want you to tak it oot o' me," she said; "no oot o' the missis when ye git hame."

Every seat was filled in the Mechanics' Hall, which holds over 1,000 people, when Adela Pankhurst spoke there last

Thursday. The meeting was enthusiastic. And her advice to Liberals to vote against the Government for the sake of saving their own party from its present disgrace was applauded.

A magistrate in the audience expressed himself strongly about the imprisonment of the women who are fighting for Liberal principles. "I would prefer to resign my position," he said, "rather than be responsible for such sentences."

The women are interested in the campaign of the Suffragettes, and turn out in numbers to their meetings. The people are extraordinarily intelligent and reflective. The Liberals own to a man that we are right in our demand. They do not quarrel with the militant tactics. They understand that we are going to work the right way. "Ye'll get the vote, lassie. Ye're sure to get it." They put the responsibility for disturbances on the shoulders of the Cabinet. "Asquith's nae but a fool when he lets ye get such strokes hame." That is their opinion. But, speaking generally, they lack imagination and emotion, and are frankly guided by self-interest. They believe in government by the people for the people, but when it comes to the last word on the matter it is, "If we vote against Gulland it will weaken the chances of the Budget."

Nevertheless, votes are being turned.

"Vote for the Tory, vote for the devil." That's what I've said all my life. Well, I'm going to vote for the devil this time, and it's the women that have driven me to it." This declaration was publicly made at one of "General" Drummond's meetings. Adela Pankhurst had a conversation with six or seven fishermen one morning in a cobbler's shop on the island of Arran. That night one of the men came to her meeting. At the end he held out his hand. "You've converted me, and I'll vote for ye," he said.

At an Open-Air Meeting.

At one meeting I heard Mrs. Drummond proving, in reply to a challenge of a Liberal that she was the better Liberal of the two, having been to prison for Liberal principles.

Liberal Objector: "Ye ha' got the better o' me this time. Faith no! I don't think I'd have the pluck to go to prison."

Mrs. D.: "Have you got the pluck to vote against the Government for us to-morrow?"

Liberal Objector: "Weel, lassie, I dinna ken what else there's left for me to dae."

Mrs. D. (to crowd, last words): "Now, then, I've laid my arguments before you, I've given you proof of the justice of this cause, and I ask you point blank, are you going to back us up by your vote?"

Voices: "Aye!"

One Voice: "Aye, to a man"

Fishermen have grievances of their own against the Liberal candidate. I hear of forty fishermen's votes that have been turned. Roman Catholics have grievances of their own. It is the business of the Suffragettes to lay stress upon these grievances, and to explain the policy of voting against the Government at a bye-election. It is their business to point out to Scotsmen how Welshmen and Irishmen are gaining attention while Scotland is being left behind, because they allow the Liberal Government to make too sure of their votes. This logic is sinking into these hard-headed thinkers. Suffragettes are teaching them politics. They admit it. Scottish people may be slow to move. Scotland has never yet been systematically worked by the Women's Social and Political Union. But it is worth winning. And it is moving, there is no doubt about that.

Derbyshire (High Peak).

Conservative - Mr. Profumo.

Liberal - Mr. Oswald Partington.

The figures at the last election were:—Mr. Oswald Partington (Lib.), 5,453; Mr. A. Profumo (Con.) 4,662. Liberal majority, 796.

Committee Rooms: 1, Eagle Parade, Buxton.
4, High Street, West Glossop.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Tuesday.

To go from London to Buxton just now is not merely to change town air for the freshness of Derbyshire. The more important fact is that you pass from the unreal party atmosphere of London newspapers into the presence of the most vital political movement of to-day. Long before I reached Buxton I became aware of the curiosity felt by the man in the street, or, rather, by the man in the railway carriage, with regard to the militant movement for woman suffrage. The

sight of VOTES FOR WOMEN led to requests to be allowed to look at our newspaper, and that in turn led to discussions, in which it was easy to see the interest and respect roused by the Suffragettes even when the details of their methods are not accurately understood. What I looked for in vain was some sign of the "apathy or disgust," with visions of which journalists strive to soothe their own uneasiness.

As for Buxton—well, Buxton is always cheery in summer, but never has it had such a summer as this. As a matter of fact, the weather is bad, and there are fewer visitors than usual; but, as a shopwoman said to me, "It's the ladies being here that matters; Buxton has never had such a time." Indeed, "the ladies," as the inhabitants prefer to call them, appear to form the one active body in the place. When you hear that there are three different parties at work you conclude that they must all have the same colours for their badge, so prevailing are the purple, white, and green. Another woman, in a little restaurant where I asked for a cup of tea, brought her sewing and sat down for a chat about the suffrage. "You know," she said, "the very first meeting they held here was packed full. But most people had gone for the fun of it. They thought it would be a great joke to hear Suffragettes talking. You see, we knew nothing about them except what was in the papers, and you know what the Press is! We expected to see a party of freaks. Well, the people at that meeting—and I was one of them—were just held spellbound, and the young lady who took that first meeting has spoken often since then, and if anyone was to speak a rude word at one of her meetings I believe he would be half-killed. Oh, I'm a Suffragette myself now, though I never thought about the question before. I can't say whether they're likely to influence many votes or not. I don't know anything about that, but I know that they're educating people. There is nobody in Buxton who isn't their friend."

"What about the local papers?" I asked.

"Oh, there is no paper round here that would say a word against the Suffragettes. It's just as I say, everybody loves them, and they are teaching us a lot of things."

And one does feel very much that a great educational work is being carried on. People are being taught to think about and discuss all sorts of questions that are new to them. Best of all, they are being taught to criticise the Government and its representatives, instead of taking with shut eyes what is said or given them. This spirit is awakening in the women of Buxton. On Thursday afternoon they crowded the Drill Hall to hear an address from Mrs. Pethick Lawrence. The meeting was most enthusiastic, and a great many questions were asked at the close of the address. There were no hostile questions, only sympathetic and intelligent ones. It was particularly interesting to the audience to see for the first time the prison dress of second-class prisoners in Holloway, worn by a real woman seated on the platform. Mrs. Lawrence described in detail this dress, with all its absurdities and discomforts, before she went on to speak of the general question of the suffrage.

This intelligent interest is not confined to the town of Buxton. Last Thursday evening, if you had driven out among the rolling hills to a quarrying village whose inhabitants are said to be Liberals to a man, you would have found a crowd of quarrymen, with their wives and children, standing with upturned faces in the driving mist while Mrs. Pethick Lawrence spoke to them of the women's cause, and explained why we try to turn votes against the Liberal candidate. And when the mist had turned to pouring rain, they still stood in rapt and wondering interest, listening and asking questions. A cheer for "Votes for Women" rang out as the speaker drove away, and the same cry came through the darkness from lonely cottages on the homeward road and from chance groups of passers-by.

Next day, on making a journey out of Buxton, it seemed as if everyone—station-masters, guards, porters, and passengers alike—were delighted to see the colours. Even more delighted were they when they could exchange smiles with a Suffragette. One railway guard came to the carriage window to say sadly that as he was on late duty for the week he would not be able to attend any W.S.P.U. meetings. He was really regretful, and wished us the best of luck. It is no wonder that with so much sympathy shown to them the Suffragettes' faces all beam with the happiest of smiles. We hear a good deal about Suffragette tactics and Suffragette logic. Surely the Suffragette smile will also become proverbial.

Press comments on the Bye-Elections will be found on p. 981.

OUR HOLIDAY CAMPAIGN.

An opportunity now lies before every member of the W.S.P.U. to spread the influence of the movement for Woman Suffrage in places hitherto untouched all over the country, and especially will it appeal to those who are unable through pressure of work or social considerations to do much in the towns where they ordinarily live.

Such holiday work has many advantages. The members will in many cases feel that they are opening up new ground and drawing into the movement people who might otherwise remain indifferent; and as in most seaside places meetings are permitted on the sands, there is no expense entailed. Bring out a chair and there you are! The other holiday-makers have plenty of leisure, and will congregate in thousands out of curiosity and, as has so often happened before, remain to be impressed and drawn into our ranks.

HINTS TO WORKERS.

It is essential that workers should have plenty of literature to distribute, and a large supply of VOTES FOR WOMEN to sell; they should also have a good stock of membership cards for inquirers, and there should be helpers who will take the names and addresses of all in the crowd who seem interested, so that the work may be followed up from the head office.

BARMOUTH.

Rev. J. Ivory Cripps, B.A., Sheridan, Barmouth Road, Swindon.

The Rev. J. Ivory Cripps writes from Sheridan, Barmouth Road, Swindon, that he is going to Barmouth from August 4 to September 1, and most generously offers his services as a speaker for the W.S.P.U. during that time. Will other speakers going to Barmouth communicate with Miss Gladice Keevil, 14, Ethel Street, Birmingham, who has the Barmouth campaign in hand.

BRIGHTON.

Ogston, Miss Helen, and local workers, 8, North Street Quadrant. (Office hours, 10-1, 3-5, 7-9.)

Daily meetings are held on the front at 3.15. To-morrow (Saturday) the local regatta takes place, and the W.S.P.U. speakers will address the crowds from a boat decorated in the colours. Volunteers are wanted to sell VOTES FOR WOMEN on the front, pier, etc. Subscriptions to the Boat Fund are invited. Miss Ogston is visiting Eastbourne, Lewes, and Portslade. Inquiries at the office and offers of help in speaking, advertising, selling VOTES FOR WOMEN, etc., will be welcomed.

BOURNEMOUTH.

Marples, Mrs., c/o Mrs. Lambert, 4, Alton Terrace, Frigonwell Road. Turle, Mrs., Overdale, Munster Road.

Mrs. Marples intends spending her holidays in Bournemouth during August, and is anxious to know what she can do to help the cause. Will others going to Bournemouth communicate with her. Mrs. Turle offers her drawing-room for an At Home.

FOLKESTONE.

Cutten, Miss. Knyvett, Lady, Burlington Hotel. Marsden, Miss Constance, Feltonfleet, Thorncliffe Road.

Miss Constance Marsden will be glad to hear of other workers going to Folkestone who will help in selling VOTES FOR WOMEN. She is a most energetic and indefatigable seller herself, and sells in Kensington between two and three hundred copies every week. Miss Marsden is going to Folkestone on August 3 for one month.

Miss Cutten, Hon. Secretary, Fulham W.S.P.U., is also going to Folkestone from August 4 to August 20, and would join in selling VOTES FOR WOMEN, etc.

ILFRACOMBE.

Rind, Miss G., 5, Bloomfield Terrace.

Miss Rind is anxious to undertake the sale of VOTES FOR WOMEN in this town. Will any members or friends spending their holidays in this neighbourhood communicate with her.

KESWICK.

Mansell-Moullin, Mrs., Ullock Farm, near Keswick.

Mrs. Mansell-Moullin writes that she has taken Ullock Farm for five weeks from August 19, and wishes to help the cause while there. She will speak if a meeting can be arranged, and Mr. Mansell-Moullin would take the chair at any place within easy distance. Any meetings arranged must be within bicycling distance. Mrs. Mansell-Moullin adds: "I feel I must be doing something, as I cannot be in prison with the noble heroines."

LITTLEHAMPTON.

Wingrove, Miss Edith, 17, St. John's Villas, Holloway, N.

Miss Wingrove is going to Littlehampton on the 24th (to-morrow, Saturday) for a few weeks, and will be most happy to hear from anyone else going to the same neighbourhood.

LOWESTOFT.

Friedlaender, Miss V. H., c/o Mrs. Gray, 43, St. George's Road, Pakefield, near Lowestoft.

Miss Friedlaender and her mother are going to Lowestoft from July 27 to August 24, and will be glad to help in selling VOTES FOR WOMEN, etc., and to hear from other members spending their holidays in that neighbourhood.

MARGATE.

Lennox, Miss Laura, Capitola, North Down Road, Cliftonville.

Miss Lennox offers hospitality to a speaker for a night or two, and would be glad to do anything for the W.S.P.U. during August. She is quite a new member, only having joined the morning after the deputation to the House of Commons (June 29). She would be very glad if it could be arranged for meetings to be held in Margate, where thousands of people will flock during the summer.

OXFORD.

Clarence, Miss Edith, 52, High Street. Pole, Miss Harriet J., The Hydro, Bear's Hill. Sproul, Miss Helena, 9, Crescent Road, Bromley, Kent.

Miss Pole will be at Oxford all the summer, and hopes shortly to have a boat of her own on the river. In view of the University Extension Course during August she suggests that it might be useful to sell VOTES FOR WOMEN and other Suffrage literature from the boat, and she would like the help of an experienced speaker and seller. The dates of the University Extension Course are July 30 to August 23. Miss Helena Sproul, 9, Crescent Road, Bromley, Kent, is also going to Oxford from July 29 to August 11 to attend the Extension Lectures. Miss Edith Clarence will be in Oxford from July 30 to August 12 or 17.

SCARBOROUGH.

Coombs, Miss Daisy. Suffield, Miss Ada, 26, Barwick Street.

Miss Suffield is anxious to open a stall for the sale of VOTES FOR WOMEN, literature, colours, etc., in the covered-in market every Saturday. She intends to work for the movement during her holiday, and would be glad to have names and addresses of other Suffragists in Scarborough willing to help her.

Miss Daisy Coombs is going to Scarborough in August, and will be glad to help in the campaign there.

SHERINGHAM.

Ayrton, Miss Phyllis. Branch, Miss Evelyn. Hardy, Miss, care of Miss Woollen, Grove House, Beeston Road, Lower Sheringham. Maguire, Miss Cynthia.

Miss Cynthia Maguire and Miss Phyllis Ayrton are going to Sheringham, and would be glad to hear from other members going there, to Cromer, or the neighbourhood.

Miss Evelyn Branch and Miss Hardy are also going to Sheringham.

VENTNOR.

Meikleham, Miss Marian, The Solent Hotel.

Will anyone going to Ventnor communicate with Miss Meikleham at the above address. She reminds readers of VOTES FOR WOMEN that Ventnor is not only a charming holiday locality, but also an open field for propaganda work.

WESTGATE-ON-SEA.

Lieben, Miss Gertrude, 5, Ethelburg Terrace.

Miss Lieben is at Westgate-on-Sea, and will be spending a fortnight there. She will be glad of help in selling VOTES FOR WOMEN, literature, etc.

WEYMOUTH.

Kendal, Miss M. E., 14, Ambler Road, Finsbury Park, N.

Miss Kendal is going to Weymouth from July 30 to August 16, and would be glad to hear from other members who would help her in selling or distributing VOTES FOR WOMEN, literature, etc., or in any other propaganda work.

WORTHING.

Ward, Miss F., 5, Prince's Street, Peterborough.

Miss Ward is going to Worthing during August, and would be glad to meet anyone interested in Votes for Women while there.

YARMOUTH.

Ford, Dr. Rosa, 60, St. Peter's Road, Great Yarmouth.

Dr. Rosa Ford and other friends are going to Caister, which is connected by electric car with Yarmouth. They would like the help of an experienced speaker or two to assist in holding beach meetings, drawing-room meetings, etc., and in doing any other propaganda work which may suggest itself. The ground is well prepared, and with the help of local members and any spending their holidays in this neighbourhood a very successful campaign should be carried out. Dr. Ford proposes the last week in August, namely, Tuesday, 24th, to Tuesday, 31st. Yarmouth friends have promised hospitality for one or two workers.

Details of the holiday plans being made by the National Organisers will be found on pp. 984-6.

TWO GREAT MEETINGS.

MISS CHRISTABEL PANKHURST ON THE MUTINY.

St. James's Hall was crowded on Thursday evening, July 15, an encouraging sign being the presence of a very large number of strangers, including many men.

In the absence of Mrs. Pethick Lawrence at Dumfries, the chair was taken by Mrs. Tuke, who said that those on the scene of action at bye-elections had indisputable evidence that the Suffragettes were a force to be reckoned with. Moreover, they were doing magnificent propaganda work on their own behalf, making friends wherever they went, and bringing the subject of Votes for Women before many who had never given serious thought to it.

Mr. Pethick Lawrence then reviewed the events of the past week stage by stage, and for the benefit of strangers present explained the object of the movement and the methods employed for the gaining of that object. Referring to the insubordination of the "stone-throwers" in Holloway, he said that their action was not simply defiance of authority, as some imagined; it was a protest against their treatment as common criminals instead of political prisoners, and when they were treated in accordance with their rights, they would conform to prison rules. He drew a picture, which would have been amusing but for its terrible irony, of the prisoners sitting in their stuffy cells reading the little books supplied them on "Hygiene," in which the importance of fresh air and ventilation was insisted upon.

Miss Christabel Pankhurst, in a rousing speech, once more defended the militant methods. Women, she asserted, had quite as much courage as men—and a good deal more than Cabinet Ministers! The policy of those gentlemen appeared to be "peace at any price," and the price was—insult to all the women in the country. The militant methods were both wholesome and educative. Women might not have valued the vote if they had received it as a free gift, but they had learned its worth by the hard fight they had made for it, and in the future they would be able to say that they won it for themselves by their own prowess. The militant methods had taught men to regard women as human beings, and not "clinging ivy." The stones thrown through the Government windows were "precious stones," jewels in the Suffragettes' crown, and they had let in light and air where both were much needed. They should have been thrown generations ago, but lost time was being made up for now. The window-breaking had proved so successful out of prison that it had been tried inside, greatly to the benefit of the atmosphere. Speaking as an ex-prisoner, Miss Pankhurst said that it was easier to sit still and endure and wait for release, but experience had proved that such submission was misunderstood, and the time had come for peaceful methods to be abandoned and more stringent measures adopted. The fourteen women then in Holloway were going to show the authorities the difference between ordinary and political prisoners, and, fortified by the opinion of their friends without and the knowledge that they were doing their duty, they were bound to win. This so-called insubordination could never be crushed, either in or out of prison, so long as people knew they were right and acted in conformity with their principles. Miss Pankhurst concluded by quoting a telling extract from a letter on this subject from Professor Bryce, M.P., to Dr. Sigerson, which is given in full on page 977.

MISS WALLACE DUNLOP'S HEROIC ACTION.

There was a magnificent audience at Queen's Hall on Monday afternoon, July 19, to give a public welcome to Miss Wallace Dunlop after her heroic "hunger-strike" in Holloway, and her reception showed very clearly the effect of her action upon public opinion. The audience rose *en masse* to cheer her, and many who had apparently come from mere curiosity caught the infection and joined heartily in the applause.

Miss Christabel Pankhurst, in the chair, commented upon the fact that the Government had adopted the militant methods, and were applying them to their efforts to push through the Budget, and if everything else failed they intended to use the strongest measures they possessed against the Lords by bringing about a dissolution. Women also, she said, must be prepared to go the whole length of the militant methods, or they would not only lose what little power they now had, but also all hope of future reform.

Miss Wallace Dunlop, once more the subject of an ovation when she rose to speak, said that she considered it a great privilege to have had an opportunity of carrying the colours in Holloway. She found the actual hunger not so hard to bear as the temptation to drink the mugs of hot, strong tea that were brought to her twice a day, but she withstood the temptation by thinking of the greater things the pioneers of the movement had gone through, and in the end was able to tell the doctor that she had played fair the whole way through.

With the truly heroic spirit that has inspired her actions throughout, Miss Wallace Dunlop dwelt upon the lighter side of her prison protest, but no one who saw her there, bearing so clearly the traces of what she had gone through, could fail to recognise her magnificent fortitude or minimise the terrible sufferings she endured.

The spirit of the martyrs of old is strong in such women, and the pangs of death itself could not have broken that spirit to do and dare all in the cause of right and justice. Miss Dunlop's fast was a trial of faith that proved the depth of her devotion to the great cause for which she suffered, and for which other brave women are suffering to-day. One of her most curious experiences in prison was a sudden feeling of warmth and brightness during the Monday afternoon, when she was feeling hungry and forlorn, just at the time when the Queen's Hall meeting was at its height, and she asked all present to send a thought-message to those in Holloway and Strangeways to cheer them on their thorny path.

Mr. Pethick Lawrence said that the Government could only see concrete things, and that the increased circulation of the paper, the funds that were being raised, and the result of bye-election campaigns impressed them, though these things were only the physical outcome of the spirit that lay within, which they had not the insight to discern. The test of militant action, he said, was how much women were prepared to do to-day compared with the days before that action was started. The courage and determination of those who did and suffered were an incentive to others to follow in their train until Government was forced into compliance, and the end was won.

Collections and promises realised £195, including £91 given by Mr. Pethick Lawrence, £1 for each hour of Miss Dunlop's hunger-strike.

THE PRESS ON THE BYE-ELECTIONS.

The opposition of "the Trade," and also, we suspect, of the Suffragettes, now counts for something in all constituencies, artisan or other. —*Nation*.

As the day of the poll gets nearer election-fever in Dumfries Burghs approaches fever-heat. "I niver saw such an election," I heard an elderly Dumfries burgher exclaim recently; "it's jist fair Pandemonium!" This was on the White Sands, where three rival orators were shouting against each other to see which would secure the biggest crowd. And the lady orator had it.

—*Westminster Gazette*.

High Peak—and after.

Another issue which is playing a part in the High Peak, as in most recent contests, is the question of the Suffrage. Here again it is fair to remember that the main factor which weighs with the Government in postponing its Reform Bill till the final Session is the moral certainty that the Lords will reject it. . . . But after a week of electioneering these issues should be sufficiently clear. It cannot be too firmly impressed on the rank and file of the party that on its conduct in this fight, on its firmness and enthusiasm between now and November, depends in all probability the action of the House of Lords. For our part, we look forward to a contest with the peers with a due share of martial spirit. But a contest this year means that we must leave undone much good work that has been promised—the legislation for the unemployed above all, and the execution of the Premier's undertaking in connection with the Franchise Bill and Woman's Suffrage.—*Daily News*.

Cleveland Result.

Mr. Samuel himself made no secret of his disappointment with the result. By a happy coincidence the contest was decided on Mrs. Samuel's birthday, and in thanking the electors at Redcar, on his wife's behalf, for the birthday present they had given her, Mr. Samuel frankly told them that he had expected something better. . . . With a fund of over £40,000 at their disposal, with a still more inexhaustible fund in the energy and enthusiastic devotion of their adherents, the militant Suffragists were able to hold simultaneous meetings in almost all parts of the constituency continuously during the last ten days of the contest, everywhere drawing large crowds, everywhere receiving a respectful and a more or less sympathetic hearing. While the Tariff "Reformer" was heckled and hooted, they were cheered or heard in attentive silence.

—*Yorkshire Daily Observer*.

Mid-Derby Result.

Another element, we think, must also be taken into account in any estimate of the conditions which brought about Mr. Hancock's victory. Since he stood as a Labour candidate he was immune from the opposition which the militant Suffragists have directed elsewhere against all pledged supporters of the Government.

—*Daily News*.

QUESTIONING CABINET MINISTERS.

"IF NOT, WHY NOT?"

Members of the W.S.P.U. from Lancashire and Yorkshire made Mr. Birrell's visit to Blackburn on Wednesday last week an opportunity for holding a vigorous protest against the unenfranchised position of women. Their announcement of being present outside the hall in which Mr. Birrell was to speak brought, says the *Northern Daily Telegraph*, "a crowd of six or seven thousand people to the Town Hall." Led by the Suffragettes, the crowd attempted to rush the doors of the hall, and to keep them out the conveners of the meeting locked the doors. The women were much encouraged by the cheers of the people. In the crowds they sold a large number of VOTES FOR WOMEN, and secured a number of promises of future help. Local women, on their own account, had prepared cards bearing the words, "Votes for Women! If not, why not?" which they distributed among the crowd. After the meeting Mr. Birrell remained in the vestibule under police protection until the signal was given that it was safe for him to leave the hall. Then under cover of darkness, the lights having been put out, he stepped into a closed carriage and was driven swiftly away. Another mark of fear Mr. Birrell gave earlier in the day. Instead of leaving his train at Blackburn, he went on to an outlying station and motored back to the town, thus escaping an interview with the Suffragette deputation which was waiting for him on the railway platform.

The following day a band of women went to Leigh, where Mr. Lewis Harcourt was announced to speak at the Co-operative Hall. Thousands of people assembled, and men shouted to the women that they would help them to get into the public meeting. The women drove up to the hall, left their carriage, and made a rush for the doors, when one of them, Miss Florence Clarkson, was immediately arrested and taken to the police station. When she had gone men in the crowd refused to allow any more women to be taken by the police, and on Miss Marsh, Miss Capper, and Mrs. Baines being arrested, the police were compelled by the crowd to let the women go. A riot followed, such as, according to the police, had not been known as far back as they could remember. At a subsequent meeting held by the women they were again cheered by the crowd, who promised them a public meeting every week in the Market Place.

Miss Clarkson, in the meantime, was bailed out in £10 by a gentleman who came forward on her behalf. On Friday morning she was tried, not in the ordinary court, but in the policemen's day-room, the charge being that of assaulting the police. Miss Clarkson protested against the rough treatment of the police, and stated that what she did was in self-defence. The presiding magistrate fined Miss Clarkson 20s. and costs, with the alternative of fourteen days' imprisonment. In consequence of Miss Clarkson's inquiry as to which division she was to be placed in, there was some delay while the magistrate consulted the court officials as to the various kinds of treatment meted out to prisoners at Strangeways Gaol. Ultimately the Bench intimated that imprisonment would be in the second division, and Miss Clarkson, protesting against any other treatment than that as political offender, declared that she intended to mutiny rather than to be treated as a criminal.

MR. BURNS KEEPS AWAY.

On the occasion of the prize distribution at the Teachers' Orphanage at Sydenham last week, much interest was excited by a notice which had been chalked outside the gate, "Where is John Burns?" "Who is afraid . . . ?" It had been expected that Mr. John Burns would distribute the prizes on this occasion, and when warned that the Suffragettes would be present, he is reported to have declared that "no woman had the power to keep him away." When the day arrived, however, Mr. Burns was absent, and it was intimated that he had been warned not to keep his engagement on account of the Suffragettes. A large number of copies of VOTES FOR WOMEN were sold at the close of the ceremony as the visitors left. It was noticed that instead of the Union Jack a purple, white, and green flag was floating over the building.

MR. RUNCIMAN AT DUDLEY, JULY 16, 1909.

When Mr. Runciman came to open the new Training College at Dudley on Friday afternoon the Suffragettes were there to ask about "Votes for Women" and why women political prisoners were not put into the first division.

At Birmingham Station he was courageous enough to step forward to a Suffragette whom he recognised. She asked him why first-class imprisonment was not accorded to the Suffragettes, and he said that it did not rest with the Government, but with the magistrate. Of course this was denied, and another Suffragette reminded him of Mr. Gladstone's assertion to the contrary.

At the college elaborate precautions had been taken to prevent Suffragettes from entering, but a large crowd had collected, knowing they would be there. Policemen were picketed at intervals of a few yards all round the palings of the grounds, others were stationed at the doors, and some were standing in the basement area of the college.

Three women, however, managed to slip through the gates and

made a rush across the field, one almost succeeding in reaching the college, but they were overcome by the police. This action aroused a great deal of sympathy from the crowd, and when Mr. Runciman left there were cries of "Votes for Women," and as his carriage drove along the road two other Suffragettes addressed him, to whom he bowed and raised his hat.

Very successful protest meetings were held at each entrance, and the people were very enthusiastic, and asked for more meetings.

Mr. Runciman did not venture to return to Birmingham by train but left in a motor-car.

L. A.

MEN'S PROTEST AT EDINBURGH.

Mr. Churchill visited Edinburgh on Saturday, July 17, and addressed (on the subject of the Budget) a packed audience of carefully scrutinised men, together with a few women who were required to give a pledge of good behaviour, and, in addition to this insult, were forced to sit together in a pew for women. In spite, however, of these elaborate precautions, our war cry more than once interrupted the speaker inside the building, while outside a most successful protest was made against the gross injustice of taxing women without granting them representation.

On his entrance to the theatre, Mr. Churchill was greeted with cries of "Give women the vote!" "Votes for Women; you hypocrite!" etc. He had not spoken for five minutes when our good friend, Mr. Shaw, hearing him mention unfairness, rose and asked: "Is it fair to tax without granting representation? Why don't you give Votes to Women?" For a moment the speaker seemed dumb-founded, and a deep silence reigned in the theatre; then the usual pandemonium broke loose. "Chuck him out!" "Throw him out!" was roared by frenzied men, hysterical with rage, to which Mr. Shaw quietly and contemptuously replied: "Who are the howling dervishes now?" A number of stewards rushed at him and seized the lapels of his coat. "Take your hands off me," he said, and said it so energetically that, seeing they had a strong man and not an unresisting woman to deal with, they contented themselves with accompanying him to the door, where he turned and shouted loudly "Votes for Women!" before he disappeared. Quiet was restored, and Mr. Churchill, who was looking apprehensive, proceeded with his speech, meeting, after the lapse of a few minutes, with a further question on the connection of taxation, representation, and Votes for Women from Mr. Holmes, who added this staunch bit of championship to the valuable assistance he has so often given us in other branches of our work. The audience again howled and shouted, and the interrupter was at once ejected. In the meantime a megaphone from a neighbouring house was insistently intoning "Votes for Women" as a weird but appropriate accompaniment to Mr. Churchill's speech on the Budget.

Miss Adela Pankhurst and Miss Brand Arrested.

Outside a crowd had gathered to our protest meeting, which we held from a wagonette adorned with the tricolour. Miss Adela Pankhurst, who had come from Dumfries to help us, made a vigorous and telling speech, protesting eloquently against the injustice of excluding women from discussing a Budget to which they were forced to contribute. "But I have come this afternoon for a very serious purpose," she concluded, and, announcing her intention of forcing an entrance into the theatre, she sprang to the ground, the crowd sympathetically opening to make a passage. She was closely followed by Miss Bessie Brand (an Edinburgh woman, the daughter of the late Sir David Brand, Sheriff and Chairman of the Crofters' Commission, who was knighted for his services to the Liberal party), and the two made a gallant dash for the door, supported by us all and by the crowd, which throughout was most friendly. A troop of plain clothes men speedily surrounded them, and they were arrested and escorted to a passing cab, which took them away to the police station amidst ringing cheers, men raising their hats and women waving scarves and handkerchiefs.

A second dash for the door was then made by Miss Eckford, another Edinburgh woman; this time the mounted police were brought out to clear the streets to the astonishment of the people, and after several determined but ineffectual attempts at forcing an entry, Miss Eckford was pushed back into the crowd. When Mr. Churchill emerged later on he was saluted with booing, this time from the men as well as the women.

On his arrival at Belgrave Place he found a number of our women waiting for him; he was reminded of the urgent necessity of enfranchising women, and asked why the Government refused to do this act of justice. Again, when he left to dine at the Liberal Club he was confronted with the same demand, in spite of an attempt to escape by the back door. On his entry into the club he was reminded of the 400 women unjustly punished as criminals by the Government, while a telegram and express letter (dispatched by us during dinner) further impressed the matter on his mind. He only escaped a further bombardment at the Prince's Street Station by arriving very early and making straight for the sleep-

ing saloon. He left the capital of Scotland hidden in the depths of a shrouded carriage guarded by detectives, the presence of the Chief Constable himself being requisitioned in order to protect him from the insistent demand for justice to women.

After Mr. Churchill's afternoon meeting was over, Miss Pankhurst and Miss Brand were released, subject, however, to the possibility of a future summons to answer the charges made against them. Their splendid protest has helped immensely to further the cause of justice to women in this northern capital.

"INEVITABLE."

An incident occurred at the Government reception in honour of the Congress on Alcoholism on Monday night, which is described by the *Daily Graphic* as "Inevitable." Mr. Lewis Harcourt received the guests on behalf of the Government at the Imperial Institute, and there were many speculations as to the presence of the Suffragettes. "We have not seen any Suffragettes yet" and "I suppose the Suffragettes will be here" were among the remarks overheard. While the crush was greatest a member of the W.S.P.U. mounted a chair and spoke for about five minutes to the assembled guests. She felt it her duty, she said, at a Government reception of that nature, to protest against the treachery of the Government, of which Mr. Harcourt was a representative, which had imprisoned women because they demanded the means for helping all social reform. It was well known that women were the most temperate half of the community, and it would, therefore, be easier to get temperance reform carried through if women were politically enfranchised. Women, she added, demanded the vote this Session, and that the women now in prison should be put in the first division as political prisoners. With one or two exceptions the assembly listened with great interest and attention, and several remarked, "Hear, hear" and "Quite right." Having delivered her speech, she was removed by a plain clothes officer, and escorted to the door. The guests followed in a long procession, and the supper tables were deserted while the incident lasted.



(Vera Holme.)

Reminding Mr. Asquith of his Duty to Women.

"To-day's arrangements.—The Prime Minister unveils Sir Wilfrid Lawson's statue in the Victoria Gardens, Thames Embankment, 12 noon."—From Tuesday's morning papers.

By 11.30 the Victoria Gardens appeared to be in a state of siege. Once again one was impressed by the ignominious position of Mr. Asquith, who cannot fulfil any of his public engagements without invoking police protection in the manner of Sultans, Shahs, and Tsars, whose consciences are uneasy in regard to their subjects.

Before the Tsar of England's police had been posted, some members of the W.S.P.U. had taken up positions as near the statue as circumstances permitted. By way of a 50 ft. ladder two of us climbed on to the flat roof of a store immediately below Adelphi Terrace and above the Victoria Gardens. From our position we could see a detachment of police beating the bushes in the gardens for hidden Suffragettes. We could see that the place where the unveiling ceremony was to take place was enclosed by a high wooden paling, and behind this paling was another paling of police. Ignominious again; but for whom? Surely not for the women who have come out against the Prime Minister to-day with no weapons but a question and a flag, and faith in their just cause.

Later.—The Prime Minister has not arrived, and already the police have suspected the nature of the roof-women's interest in Sir Wilfrid Lawson's statue! First the infuriated owner of the premises mounts the ladder and orders us to withdraw. Parley. Refusal of Suffragettes to withdraw until the man, whether owner of the roof or not, who gave them leave to stand there is sent for. Infuriated owner retires. Suffragettes pull up the 50 ft. ladder on to the roof. (No joke this.) Police, instructed by owner that we are trespassing,

mount another ladder, and invade our roof exactly at the moment when the Prime Minister arrives below. Our names are taken for a summons for trespass. While the policeman at my elbow is struggling with my name I have time to raise the megaphone to my mouth and to send Mr. Asquith a message, at the very moment he is unveiling the statue.

"Why don't you do justice to living women as well as to dead men?"

My comrade raises the familiar "Votes for Women" banner, but the bushes—let us confess it, for we have no need to withhold truth anywhere—are very thick. The police have now seized the megaphone, and are hustling me towards the ladder, but I continue to shout messages—I hope both forcible and appropriate—to the gathering round the Lawson statue. After our descent of the ladder, at the foot of which a dozen policemen are waiting for us, the protest is carried on in the gardens with unabated vigour. One brave member of the W.S.P.U. climbs the high paling, and before the police can catch her cries "Shame on you, Mr. Asquith, for putting women into dark cells, instead of treating them as political prisoners. Shame on you! Why don't you give us the vote and end it?"

Previously, the Prime Minister, speaking at Westminster Hall, had praised the "fearlessness and courage, the passionate love of freedom, and the self-sacrifice of Sir Wilfrid Lawson." Does he not know that what for the sake of his dignity are described as "the wild antics of Suffragettes" spring from exactly the same spirit which he commended in Sir Wilfrid Lawson? C. J.

Mr. McKenna was questioned by two W.S.P.U. members at Queenboro' on Tuesday. He refused to discuss anything but the weather.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £50,000 FUND.

July 14 to July 20.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	43,805	8	9	Per Miss Florence Macaulay—			
Rosary (given at Queen's Hall meeting)	0	7	6	Mrs. Ivory	10	0	0
C. Herbert, Esq.	1	0	0	Anon	1	13	4
"A Suffragist"	0	5	0	Miss Filshill	0	10	0
Crouch Hill meeting (collected, per Miss Geraldine Stuart)	1	11	6	Miss Lambert	0	9	0
Mrs. Algernon Marsden	0	5	0	Miss B. Brand	0	9	0
Miss Ellen Foxall	0	2	6	Miss J. Currie	0	4	0
Miss B. Hale	0	10	0	Miss M. Gorrie	0	3	6
Anon	0	5	0	Miss Ogilvy	0	2	6
Miss Bina Simpson	0	2	0	Anon (donation)	0	3	0
Miss Joan N. Green	0	2	6	Per Miss Ada Flatman—			
Mrs. Sharnan	2	0	0	Profit on literature	0	8	10
Miss Mary Forster	0	10	0	Miss Hoy	0	6	0
Miss S. Evelyn Spencer	0	5	0	Two sisters	1	5	4
Miss G. Lowy	2	0	0	Per Miss Dora Marsden—			
Miss Stella Browne	0	4	0	Anon	0	1	6
Mrs. H. Bernheim	1	1	0	Anon	0	10	0
Lady Catherine Morgan	0	2	0	— Genshirt, Esq.	0	1	0
Miss Grace Wylie	0	10	0	Miss Gilliat	0	2	6
Miss B. Wylie	0	10	0	Anon	0	3	0
Miss S. E. Wylie	0	10	0	For Organiser Fund—			
Mrs. Palmer	1	0	0	Miss Helen Gratton	0	12	0
Per Mrs. M. A. Butler (collected at drawing-room meeting)	1	17	0	Miss Daisy D. Solomon	1	2	0
"Votes for Women" (extra paid in street), per Mrs. Violet Jones	0	2	4	Miss J. M. Cornwall	0	10	0
Miss Ogston (lecture fee and travelling expenses)	1	11	0	Lady Knyvett	0	12	6
"Two Liberal Rebels"	1	0	0	For Legal Defence Fund—			
Chiswick W.S.P.U.	2	2	0	Miss Lettice Floyd	20	0	0
"Writing on the Wall"	0	10	0	"Numbers 6, 24-26"	0	5	0
"Numbers 6, 24-26"	1	0	0	For Prisoners Fund—			
Mrs. M. G. Soan	1	0	0	Miss F. E. Strickland	0	10	0
Miss M. G. McNeill	0	1	0	Miss Frances Wilde	0	9	0
Miss Mary McNeill	0	1	0	Miss Dorothy Gordon	0	9	0
Miss Margaret McNeill	0	1	0	Mrs. Mary A. M. Marks	0	9	0
Miss Dunn	0	1	0	Mrs. Muriel Luke	0	9	0
Mrs. Wallace Guest	0	1	0	Mrs. H. Nisbett	0	4	6
Mrs. Wallace Guest (donation)	0	10	0	Mrs. Everitt Farmer	0	9	0
Mrs. French	0	10	0	M. Everitt Farmer, Esq.	0	9	0
A Friend, per Mrs. French	1	0	0	Miss M. Morice	0	4	6
Dr. Marion Gilchrist	5	5	0	Anon	0	9	0
Miss O. E. M. Strangeways	1	0	0	A. J.	0	9	0
Miss Dora Heckels	0	10	0	Miss Daisy D. Solomon	2	14	0
Miss Kate Griffith	1	0	0	Miss S. Rintoul	0	9	0
Henry A. Kelly, Esq.	2	0	0	Miss E. V. Rintoul	1	7	0
Mrs. Lelacheur	2	0	0	Miss M. Rintoul	1	7	0
Miss Phyllis Moulton	0	1	0	Miss H. Theobald	0	9	0
Miss Flora Luke	0	2	6	Miss Florence J. Temple	0	9	0
Miss A. M. Hooton	0	1	0	Miss F. M. Thomas	0	1	8
Lady Knyvett (Bye-Election)	5	0	0	Miss E. Fowler	0	10	6
Per Miss New—				F. C. Fowler, Esq.	0	9	0
Miss Atkinson (for office expenses)	1	0	0	Miss Juliette Heale	5	8	0
Mrs. Bell (for office expenses)	0	5	0	Nurses of Western Hospital (per Miss V. O'Brien)	0	9	6
"Sympathiser"	1	1	0	Miss Nancy Grant	0	9	0
Anon. (for office expenses)	0	10	6	Miss Helen Webb	0	9	0
Mrs. J. A. Boyd	2	0	0	Mrs. Dicks	0	9	0
Sale of Bracket	0	10	0	Miss E. Shanks	0	9	0
"Ransom"	2	0	0	Mrs. A. Riley	0	9	0
Per Miss Keovil—				Miss M. A. Montgomery	0	10	6
Miss Mary Floyd (transferred subscriptions)	7	0	6	G. R. A.	3	0	0
Profit on Derby meeting (per Miss Hooper)	3	17	7	Lady Knyvett	5	8	0
Miss Laura Hemming	0	2	0	Dr. and Mrs. Chas. Lovegrove	2	2	0
Miss Kate Cardo	0	2	6	"An Ardent Sympathiser" (Bridge of Weir)	0	5	0
Miss Reynolds	0	0	6	Miss Eva Ducat	0	9	0
Miss Woodfield	0	2	6	Miss E. M. Morrison	1	0	0
Birmingham Office				Mrs. Ina Boulter	1	0	0
guarantee	0	15	0	Miss M. Wallace Milligan	0	14	0
Per Miss Elsie Howey—				Miss N. Crocker	1	1	0
William Blathwayt, Esq.	1	1	0	Anon (108 farthings)	0	2	3
Per Miss Vera Wentworth—				Miss L. B. Aldridge	0	9	0
Miss Davies	0	2	6	Miss L. M. Newill	0	9	0
				"B. R."	2	14	0
				Viscountess Harberton	5	8	0
				Miss Joan B. Crombie	0	18	0
				Miss E. Blake	0	9	0
				Miss Garrett Anderson	108	0	0
				M.D.	9	0	0
				Membership Entrance Fees	43	0	8
				Collections, etc.	17	0	0
				Exhibition Stall takings (additional)			

THE CAMPAIGN THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

London.—Mrs. Flora Drummond, 4, Clements Inn.

West of England.—Miss Annie Kenney, 37, Queen's Road (opposite Art Gallery), Clifton.

Lancashire.—Miss Mary Gawthorpe, 164, Oxford Road, Manchester; 22, Mulgrave Street, Liverpool (Miss Flatman); 41, Glover's Court, Preston; 84, Yorkshire Street, Rochdale.

Midlands.—Birmingham: Miss Gladys G. Keovil, 14, Ethel Street; Nottingham: Miss N. Crocker, 8, East Circus Street.

Yorkshire.—Bradford: Miss C. A. L. Marsh, 68, Manningham Lane; Redcar: Miss D. Pethick, 25, Queen St.

Newcastle.—Miss Edith New, 284, Westgate Hill.

Glasgow.—Mrs. A. K. Craig, 141, Bath Street.

Edinburgh.—Miss Florence E. M. Macaulay, 8, Melville Place, Queensterry Street.

Aberdeen.—Miss Adela Pankhurst, 41½, Union Street.

Open-air meetings are occupying the attention of the W.S.P.U. workers all over the country. In most centres the At Homes are discontinued for a time, and meetings are being held in every available open space. News of successful meetings comes from all the organisers, and it is evident that the sympathy and approbation of the public all over the country have been gained. Interest is especially shown in the mutiny of the women now in Holloway, and public sympathy has been expressed at many meetings held during the week. In Lancashire Miss Florence Clarkson has been sent to prison for a fortnight charged with assaulting the police during her spirited protest on the occasion of a visit by Mr. Lewis Harcourt. She will be released on Thursday, the 29th, and will be accorded a public welcome in Manchester. Before entering prison she declared her intention of carrying out a protest on the lines of those of the Suffragettes in Holloway.

Holiday plans include a campaign in the Isle of Man under the conduct of Miss Flatman, campaigns along the coast of Wales, in the Lake District, on the Yorkshire coast, and elsewhere. Now is the time for holiday-makers to take their share in propaganda work, wherever they propose spending a holiday. They are asked to put themselves in communication with the nearest holiday centre, particulars of which will be published weekly under the heading "Holiday Campaign." Readers are asked to refer to page 980 for the names of places so far arranged for.

LONDON AND HOME COUNTIES.

Sales of VOTES FOR WOMEN along the banks of the Thames on the occasion of the Fleet Pageant have occupied London members fully during the week. In addition, a "Budget Campaign" was started last Wednesday in Limehouse in preparation for Mr. Lloyd George's meeting next Friday, the 30th. At the first meeting held the audience was evidently much interested, and nearly 100 copies of VOTES FOR WOMEN were sold. All the subsequent meetings have been of the same character, marked by interest and enthusiasm, and great results are looked for on the occasion of Mr. Lloyd George's visit. All London members are asked to help, especially as speakers, for chalking pavements, selling VOTES FOR WOMEN, etc. Committee rooms have been taken at 65, Edinburgh Terrace, Roadeswell Lane, Limehouse, and intending volunteers should communicate at once with Miss Kelly or Miss Hewitt at that address.

The W.S.P.U. Drum and Fife Band has paraded round Holloway Gaol each evening to encourage the Suffragettes within, and has attracted much public attention.

WEST OF ENGLAND.

The great feature of the work in the West of England is now the holding of open-air meetings. At Plymouth, Torquay, and on the Cornish coast these are being carried on successfully, and from each centre reports are most encouraging. Among the places visited during the week have been Plympton, where the W.S.P.U. members had an enthusiastic reception; Torre Point, Camborne, Redruth, Hayle, St. Ives, Paignton, Dartmouth, Marychurch, and Teignmouth.

In the older centres also—Bristol, Bath, and Cardiff—meetings are being held, and the At Homes have for the time being given way to meetings of a more public character. At Newport a working committee has been formed, the first meeting taking place at the Savoy Hotel, the object of which is to keep the work going in Newport, to extend the sale of VOTES FOR WOMEN, and in other ways to assist the progress of the movement. A meeting was held in Bath by Miss Vera Wentworth on Saturday. Mrs. Barratt is keeping the flag flying in Bristol during Mrs. Dove-Willcox's imprisonment. A great deal of interest has been roused in the West over

the militant action in connection with the deputation, and much admiration is expressed for the brave women who are prepared to suffer for their convictions. This was notably the case at a well-attended drawing-room meeting given by Mrs. Butler at Panteg House, Griffis Town, when Mrs. Butler gave a most encouraging address. Another meeting of special interest was the last At Home of the season in Newport, which Mrs. Thomas and Mrs. Mackworth advertised with a placarded motor-car. Mrs. Mitchell, one of the veterans of the woman's movement, was in the chair, and Mrs. Wallis-Fowler, a Dutch lady, gave a most interesting address. The last Cardiff At Home of the season was presided over by Mrs. Thomas, who dwelt upon the importance of the prisoners' demand to be treated as political offenders, and made a strong appeal for the sale of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

An urgent call for more workers comes from Miss Annie Kenney. Especially she asks for a worker for Plymouth and another for Cornwall for two full weeks, beginning on August 18. They are wanted to take care of the Torquay shop, with the aid of local members, and to hold meetings. Volunteers should write at once to Miss Annie Kenney, 37, Queen's Road, Clifton, Bristol. Miss Mary Phillips (headquarters, Tregenna House, Penzance) recommends Cornwall as a most delightful part of the world in which to take a holiday. She would be very glad of assistance during the summer, and volunteers should write to her at the address given above. The conditions in Cornwall are most encouraging, and Miss Phillips reports that at Newlyn especially the fishermen showed a grasp of the political situation "that would have done the Prime Minister great credit. Each town," she writes, "vies with the others in the warmth and cordiality of its reception and in the eagerness of the demand for VOTES FOR WOMEN and badges. In every case we have to leave them clamouring for more, the amount we sell being limited by our carrying capacities, and a crowd usually accompanies us to the station to say good-bye, and to ask when we are coming again." A speaker is urgently needed also to help Miss Mills in Torquay during Miss Howey's absence. Miss Howey writes, "We could do so much more work if we had more workers."

The sale of VOTES FOR WOMEN is most encouraging from all centres. Miss Kenney reports that new Miss Maud Fussell and Miss Alice Walters are back again they are going to work harder than ever in keeping up the sales, for which Miss Fussell has promised to be responsible with the help of a committee. Miss Fussell will be pleased to hear from anyone in or near Bristol able to help. Valuable work is being done by Miss Dugdale, sister of Mrs. Dove-Willcox, who is making a canvas of all the newsagents. One of the Bristol members takes four dozen copies every week through her newsagent. Another member takes two dozen, and nearly every member takes several copies in addition to her own, all through the newsagents. In Bath Miss Ethel Tollemache will sell VOTES FOR WOMEN throughout Pageant week. Meetings are being held next week in Bristol, Newport, and Cardiff to decide on what form members' appreciation of the bravery of Mrs. Dove-Willcox and Miss Mary Allen shall take. Visitors to Dartmouth can get their VOTES FOR WOMEN from Mr. Lee, Duke Street.

LANCASHIRE.

Lancashire's doings of the week include two highly successful protests, organised by Mrs. Baines, at Budget League meetings at Blackburn and Leigh, in which Manchester members took part (see page 982). At the Leigh protest Miss Florence Clarkson, the Literature Secretary for Lancashire, was arrested, and as she has been sentenced to a fortnight's imprisonment considerable additional work has been thrown on other workers. Miss Mary Gawthorpe, therefore, appeals to members loyally to support this increased demand on their help by guaranteeing to sell a definite number of VOTES FOR WOMEN while Miss Clarkson is in prison. "In this way," she adds, "we hope to keep up the excellent average of recent weekly sales in Manchester of more than 1,000 copies." July 29 (Thursday) is a red letter day in Manchester, since on that date Miss Clarkson will be released. Members and friends are asked to be at the prison gates at 7 a.m., and arrangements are being made for a supper in honour of Miss Clarkson to take place the same evening at the Grotto Café; tickets, price 2s. 6d. each, can be obtained from Miss Gawthorpe.

The At Homes are being discontinued for the summer, to-morrow's At Home being the last for four or five weeks. Due notice will be given of the resumption of these At Homes. Valuable help has been given this week by Miss Una Dugdale in connection with a preliminary Salford campaign; among many other engagements Miss Dugdale has made a flying visit to the Peak bye-election, and has spoken at one of the Friday evening At Homes. The Eight Towns campaign is being proceeded with, and great things are hoped for with the commencement of the teachers' holidays. Miss Lee has

taken up the captaincy of this department until Miss Tolson's return from her holidays.

Miss Flatman reports from Liverpool that the open-air campaign has resulted in widely expressed sympathy for the W.S.P.U. members now in revolt in Holloway. The next immediate matter in hand here is a holiday campaign in the Isle of Man. This will begin on August 1, and lasts for one month. Douglas will be the first centre, and from this smaller places will be visited, while Peel, Ramsay, and Castletown will subsequently come into the scheme of meetings. As these resorts are very popular during September, Miss Flatman hopes that much good work may be done. She appeals for help in speaking, advertising meetings, selling VOTES FOR WOMEN, taking the collections, etc., etc., and those intending to spend their holidays on the island are asked to communicate at once with her at 22, Mulgrave Street, Liverpool. She also suggests that the loan of a motor-car, which might be placed at the disposal of the workers for use on the island, would save an enormous amount of time and expense. Donations towards a travelling fund are also asked for. The Tuesday evening At Homes in Liverpool are discontinued through August and September, but members are undertaking to hold open-air meetings; these will be announced later. Some excellent meetings have been held at Birkenhead and Rockferry, and it is intended to follow these up with good indoor meetings in the early autumn. Miss Flatman wishes especially to thank two sisters for their donation of two guineas to supply four friends with a year's copies of VOTES FOR WOMEN, the balance to go to the local campaign. She requests that those unable to help during their holidays in any other way should make themselves responsible for the sale of at least one dozen VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Excellent reports come also from Southport, where meetings are being held every Saturday afternoon on the sands. In addition to regular meetings, Southport members will help Miss Millicent Brown in opening up Ormskirk and Wigan. At the latter a second meeting is being held next Monday, in response to enthusiastic requests. So many requests have been made for another visit to St. Anne's that Mrs. Rigby, of Preston, is undertaking to arrange an evening meeting in St. George's Hall on Monday, July 26, when the speakers will be the Hon. Mrs. Haverfield and Miss Mary Gawthorpe. Another meeting is being planned for Llandudno, and in order to avoid a repetition of the recent disgraceful attack by hooligan boys, a charge of 1s. and 6d. is being made for seats.

In regard to holiday work, Miss Gawthorpe makes the proposal that members shall, if possible, arrange to spend their holiday in some district associated with holiday centres, such as Llandudno, St. Anne's, Blackpool, Southport, etc., paying their own expenses, and giving as much time as possible towards helping in the campaign. Speakers and workers will be welcome. Llandudno is practically arranged for to the end of August, with the exception of the first two weeks of that month. Further promises of help for these two weeks will be gladly received. This is a new district, and it is very important that it should be thoroughly worked. Miss Gawthorpe strongly recommends Southport to members wishing to take first steps in open-air work.

MIDLANDS.

Among important events of the week have been the welcome back of Miss Margesson and Miss Young (prisoners on remand) from London and Mr. Runciman's visit to Dudley, when members of the W.S.P.U. from the Midlands were present; an account of this will be found on page 982. During a visit of German delegates to Bourneville last week, a member of the W.S.P.U. was asked to explain the meaning of the purple, white, and green flags which the delegates noticed waving gaily. Great efforts are being made to maintain good sales of VOTES FOR WOMEN, and members are asked to come to 14, Ethel Street, at any time, to take out copies to sell in the streets. "As Birmingham is becoming the second largest city in the Empire," Miss Keevil writes, "it is most important that it should be thoroughly alive to our movement, and there is no better means of advertising it than by VOTES FOR WOMEN." Very good meetings have been held at Ladywood, Handsworth (a new district, where the people are very anxious to know about the movement); Saltley, where several members are doing excellent work by holding small weekly At Homes as well as outdoor meetings at Alum Rock Road; at Wolverhampton, where a large and enthusiastic crowd listened to Miss Young's account of the deputation of June 29; at Leamington, where the deputation is also a subject of great interest, and everything points to a good meeting in the Town Hall in October; and at Rugby, where a fresh crowd attended last week's meeting and showed great interest. Indoor women's meetings and a Town Hall meeting in November are being arranged for at Rugby, and the meetings during August will be discontinued. Miss Gladice Keevil specially appeals for more sellers of VOTES FOR WOMEN in all districts, and for drawing-room meetings or garden meetings, at Saltley especially. Meetings at Leamington will be suspended during the holidays, but will begin again in September. The Midlands caravan reports meetings held at Highescale, Market Drayton, Newport, and Penkridge. The speakers this week have been Mrs. Whitten and Miss Harris. Further help would be welcome, as one

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tion and Tucks.

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22/-

"HENLEY."

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of the speakers has been called away suddenly. An important event of the future is a demonstration at Gosford Green, Coventry, on September 25, when Miss Mary Gawthorpe and others will speak.

Encouraging reports come from Nottingham, where a large crowd in the Market Square listened eagerly to Miss N. Crocker's account of the deputation of June 29. There is every sign that the movement has gained a firm hold in Nottingham. At Bulwell, Carrington, and Lenton good meetings have been held. Miss Crocker appeals to each individual member to give all possible spare time first and foremost to the W.S.P.U. "The womanhood of the country," she adds, "demands it." All communications should be addressed to Miss N. Crocker, 8, East Circus Street, Nottingham.

YORKSHIRE.

Yorkshire workers are devoting themselves to an open-air campaign, and have begun with an excellent reception at Mr. Asquith's birthplace, Morley, near Leeds. Miss Marsh writes:—"It is very noticeable that even in new and comparatively untouched places no opposition is shown at all. Everyone is on our side before the close of the meeting." A regular audience comes to Morley Street, Bradford, where a weekly meeting is held, and great sympathy is shown. The immediate work in hand is in connection with the York Pageant, during which W.S.P.U. meetings will be held, beginning at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday in next week. Helpers are wanted to sell VOTES FOR WOMEN (see Announcements, page 975). Miss Marsh urges members going for their holidays to take with them copies of VOTES FOR WOMEN to introduce to fresh people. She is anxious to hear from members spending the early part of September near Scarborough or Harrogate. Speakers are specially needed, but other workers, paper sellers, etc., will also be most welcome. They should write to Miss Marsh at the address above.

The Cleveland campaign announced in last week's VOTES FOR WOMEN as having been undertaken by Miss Dorothy Pethick is going ahead most encouragingly. "As we go about selling VOTES FOR WOMEN," says Miss Pethick, "we meet with those who only need the invitation to become members of the Union. Redcar is full of converts." This, considering that only a very few days' work have been put in, is a most encouraging sign. Miss Pethick and Miss Bowker are hoping to break up new ground in Middlesbrough, and also to start work in Darlington. Paper sellers and volunteers for other work are wanted. They should communicate with Miss D. Pethick, 25, Queen Street, Redcar.

NEWCASTLE.

During Miss New's absence at bye-elections and Miss Kathleen Brown's imprisonment in Holloway the work has been carried on by local workers. Miss Dorothy Pethick and Miss Bowker visited Tynemouth on Saturday from Redcar to help at a Miners' Gala, when the W.S.P.U. hired a brake and decorated it with flags and banners, thereby attracting great attention from the thousands of people congregated for the gala. Two meetings were held, one at the Spanish Battery in the afternoon, when Mrs. Taylor took the chair, and Miss Pethick and Miss Bowker spoke, and the other in the evening at Sharpness Point, when Mrs. Atkinson presided. Both meetings were well attended, and the speakers had an attentive hearing. Miss Pethick's description of the deputation of June 29 proved especially interesting, and nearly 400 copies of VOTES FOR WOMEN were sold. The interest displayed by the women present was very noticeable. It was remarked that whenever an objection was made, the women tried to bring the interrupter to reason, and showed great intelligence in their arguments. Volunteers who can help in taking care of the shop at Newcastle or in any other way should communicate, in Miss New's absence, with Mrs. J. Atkinson, 2, Devonshire Terrace, Newcastle.

GLASGOW.

Good street sales of VOTES FOR WOMEN are reported from Glasgow. Miss Adela Pankhurst has returned from her bye-election work, and meetings are being resumed, beginning with some on the coast, which should prove very successful owing to the Glasgow Fair holidays.

EDINBURGH.

Miss F. E. M. Macaulay writes that if Edinburgh residents are to be reached during the summer months they must be followed into the country and to the various seaside places. The Thursday At Homes are therefore being discontinued, and members are asked to devote their energies to holiday plans. Offers of help should be sent in at once to Miss Macaulay at the address given above. Valuable speeches were delivered at the final At Homes of the season by Mrs. H. More-Nisbett, Mrs. James Ivory, and by Mrs. Robertson and Miss Roberts, members of the deputation of June 29. The sympathy aroused by their account of that deputation was expressed with unmistakable warmth, and it has been again aroused by the arrest in Edinburgh itself of Miss Adela Pankhurst and Miss Bessie Brand, an account of whose actions will be found on page 982. Miss Macaulay again urges the importance of the sale of VOTES FOR WOMEN, and earnestly urges every member to do her utmost in this

direction. She reminds workers of the autumn demonstration, fixed for October 9 in the Waverley Market, preparations for which are now in progress. All available help is urgently needed, and inquiries and communications should be addressed to the Edinburgh office.

THE WAR CHEST.

Notable amongst the totals collected during the week for the funds of the W.S.P.U. stands the sum of £17 16s. 3d. sent in from the Edinburgh centre through Miss Macaulay. This is in addition to 18s. subscribed for the Prisoners' Fund, making the splendid total of nearly £19 as a result of one week's efforts. Miss Mary Gawthorpe's financial report is held over, but from Liverpool alone comes £15 5s. 9d., while the West of England just exceeds this amount (£15 10s. 11d.), £12 5s. 7d. coming from Miss Annie Kenney alone, the remainder from Plymouth and Cornwall. Glasgow contributes £8 10s. and Yorkshire £4 11s. 1d., making up the organisers' total to £62 12s., an average of over £10 each day.

Readers are asked to refer carefully to the Programme of Events, page 975, for the meetings being held in the various localities. They are given under the name of the town, and not, as has hitherto been the arrangement, according to the time at which the meetings are held. It is hoped that this new arrangement will facilitate reference.

"PENNY PLAIN, AND TUPPENCE COLOURED"!

Under the headline "Suffragettes Fought Viciously," the *Manitoba Free Press* (Canada) publishes the following report, ostensibly from its London correspondent:—"London, June 30.—In the raid of the Suffragettes' last evening the members of the House of Lords and of the Commons and also the women in the windows were driven back by the rain of stones. The majority of the Suffragettes carried stones, and tricked the police by wrapping them in paper or their handkerchiefs. The women scratched, bit, and kicked, and when unable to overcome the police dropped to the street and rolled in the dust.

The Guards Called Out.

"When the women were fighting their hardest the hooligans broke off the sidewalks and grew violent. It was then that the Guards were ordered out. Extra police were rushed up, and the hooligans were suppressed by the free use of clubs. One of the Whitechapel rowdies killed a policeman's mount by stabbing it in the throat. He also stabbed the policeman in the leg, but received a blow from the policeman that stretched him unconscious. Forty women were taken to hospitals. At one time more than twenty were insensible in an open space close to the St. Stephen's entrance.

Women Fought Viciously.

"Many women fought until their clothing was in shreds. Policemen were stabbed with hat pins in the face, arms, shoulders, and breasts. As soon as a woman showed a hat pin, however, she was handled roughly, as the policemen were warned that they might be fatally wounded by a jab."

SELLING THE PAPER.

An example that many of our members might well follow is that of Miss Constance Marsden, who spends the morning in selling papers in Kensington High Street, and the afternoon at Earl's Court Station. Miss Marsden delights in the work, and has had great success and very interesting experiences. A striking point is that she does a large trade with men of the poorest classes. The other day, for instance, she sold thirty-six copies of the paper to the passengers coming out of the workmen's trains, and many a working man encourages her with words such as, "May God help you win the vote," or "I would vote for you if I could." Another touching instance of the sympathy of the poorer classes is that of an old woman, practically in rags, who insisted on paying for the copy which Miss Marsden was willing to give her, saying, "No, no, I will pay; I will give my last penny to the cause." Selling in the streets also leads to some delightful friendships. One of Miss Marsden's best friends is a policeman, who began by threatening to arrest her for being in the way. He returned the same afternoon and said, "You were a plucky woman, and I am sorry for being rude." Sometimes ladies come and shake hands with her as a sign of their admiration for her courage, a fact of which she takes advantage to point out the much greater courage shown by those who go to prison. Miss Marsden would be glad of a companion to sell papers with her, and no one need be afraid of bad trade. In less than two days Miss Marsden sold 126 copies.

A PROTEST.

Mrs. Julie E. Tomlinson has sent Miss Gawthorpe a cheque for £1 for the funds of the W.S.P.U. as her "small protest against the lack of Liberal principles shown by a Liberal Government in their dealings with women."

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THE PRESS ON MR. ASQUITH'S ATTITUDE.

I see, in *VOTES FOR WOMEN*, the Rev. Hugh B. Chapman, the popular chaplain of the Savoy, records this week his conversion to Woman Suffrage, "after witnessing the events of Tuesday week," and wishes all success to the campaign against the "falsity which has so long surrounded the relations between the sexes," of which—like most of us—he acknowledges himself to have been "up to now more or less a victim." That is the conviction which is rapidly converting all decent men. And either political party will have to take stock of it. When a movement has ceased to be the shuttlecock of Tories and Radicals, and has enlisted the sympathy of the nation, its victory is within sight. The King is unmistakably of that opinion, and his most tactful action will surely end the rather stupid *impasse* which has supervened between Ministers and the Suffragettes. Failing to see the Prime Minister, the Suffragettes wanted to petition the King. The King, wisely and courteously, told them he could not constitutionally receive them himself, but that the Home Secretary was the right man through whom to petition. Mr. Gladstone took the hint, saw the deputation, behaved most graciously, and promised to transmit the petition. On Friday, the Bow Street magistrate, though he convicted Mrs. Pankhurst and Mrs. Haverfield, advised their lawyers to appeal, "in view of the importance of the case." Very wise! Now the women have given notice they will obey no more prison regulations, and the people have had to let Miss Dunlop out after a ninety-one hours' fast, it is not of much use locking the Suffragettes up!

—*Weekly Times*.

The "Outwards" of It.

It would be odious to us to try to unravel the "inwards" of Mr. Asquith's totally different attitude towards women and towards men. But from every outside point of view we condemn his "Suffragist" tone and attitude as being far more petty and frivolous than the same characteristics falsely attributed to women. . . . But while we thus unreservedly condemn Mr. Asquith's way of dealing with would-be deputations of women—treatment which strikes us as being as weak as it is impolitic—we take leave to enter a similar protest against the silence and passivity of Mr. Balfour and his fellow ex-Ministers. To us the most serious and painful feature of the situation—more serious if less painful than the punishment of any number of petitioning martyrs—is that the defence of the liberty of the subject in whatever form should be left to devolve on Mr. Hugh Law, Mr. Keir Hardie and a few other free lances, however able. . . . A strong sense of justice compels us to hope that whether a Liberal or a Conservative hand grants the inevitable emancipation, it will not be forgotten that the methods of the Liberal Prime Minister have not been challenged by the Conservative ex-Prime Minister during all these weary months of battling and imprisonment on behalf of what is at least accounted a great and righteous cause by thousands of human beings.

—*Hereford Times*.

The Right to Petition.

The question whether the right exists to present petitions in person to Parliament is only a very small side issue of the far greater question involved, and Ministers will make a mistake if they think its reference to the Court of Appeal will suspend the agitation of the Suffragettes. These very energetic ladies want something more than an acknowledgment of their right to present petitions, and they will not be happy or quiet until they get it. Proof of their determination is shown by the remarkable response they and their supporters have made to the appeal for funds to prosecute the campaign. Last week about £1,300 was subscribed, and the £50,000 Fund which it is desired to raise only needs some £3,000 to complete.

—*Portsmouth Evening News*.

There is a very widespread feeling in the House of Commons, shared even by those who do not believe in Women's Suffrage, that Mr. Asquith would have been well advised to have seized the opportunity Mr. Kettle presented to him of relaxing the cast-iron attitude he has adopted towards the Suffragist demand for an interview. There is no reason for his refusal, except that Mr. Asquith prides himself on his adamant will, and weakly thinks that it would be a surrender to receive these ladies.

—*Freeman's Journal*.

In spite of appearances to the contrary, I have some reason to think that the Premier will agree to receive a women's Suffragist deputation before the rising of Parliament. Several earnest Liberals, both in and out of Parliament, are using every effort to bring this about.

—*Manchester Guardian*.

The Prime Minister remains inexorable. He will not see or hear the women if he can help it (he does now and then both see and hear a Suffragette).

—*Wallasey News*.

THE RIGHT TO PETITION.

A correspondent has sent the following extracts from the preface to the French "Constitution" of June 24, 1893, as "the words appear to bear striking testimony to the recognition of a right of petition in France similar to that claimed by the W.S.P.U. :—

32. Le droit de présenter des pétitions aux dépositaires de l'autorité publique, ne peut en aucun cas, être interdit, suspendu, ni limité.

The right to present petitions to the custodians of public authority cannot in any case be forbidden, suspended, or limited.

34. Il y a oppression contre le corps social, lorsqu'un seul de ses membres est opprimé; il y a oppression contre chaque membre, lorsque le corps social est opprimé.

In the case of oppression of any member of the community there is oppression of the community itself; if the community is oppressed, every member of it is also oppressed.

35. Quand le gouvernement viole le droit du peuple, l'insurrection est pour le peuple et pour chaque portion du peuple, le plus sacré des droits, et le plus indispensable des devoirs.

When the Government violates the right of the people, insurrection is for the people and every portion of the people the most sacred right and the most indispensable duty.

A GENEROUS GIFT.

Mrs. Wilson has very kindly given to the W.S.P.U. eight of the Elswick bicycles, beautifully decorated in the colours, to which we referred recently in *VOTES FOR WOMEN*. Purchasers coming forward, therefore, to buy these machines will have the satisfaction of knowing that the whole of the profits will go to the funds of the Union. Application should be made to the Woman's Press, 4, Clements Inn, London, W.C. They are ten guineas each.

The imprisoned Suffragettes had broken their windows, and so were able to communicate with their friends outside, as well as talk to each other. It is impossible that this state of things can go on, and for the moment it adds to the perplexities of Mr. Herbert Gladstone's tenure of the Home Secretaryship.

—*Bristol Times*.

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LOCAL NOTES.

BOWES PARK W.S.P.U.—Owing to the weather, our garden meeting had to be abandoned for an indoor meeting. Those present listened to the speeches by Miss Kathleen Brown and Mrs. Hylton Dale with the keenest interest. Open-air work in Wood Green and Finsbury Park is very successful. Miss Kathleen Brown, Miss Ayrton, Mrs. Mayer, Miss Barry, Miss Gibson, and Miss Macnamara have addressed fine crowds, and VOTES FOR WOMEN sells splendidly. In Deputation week only four copies were left for sale on the Sunday, and the circulation is steadily increasing. Members are now exhibiting money boxes (in the colours) in prominent positions in their homes, to collect funds for the Union. RACHEL NEAL, Hon. Sec.

BRIGHTON AND HOVE W.S.P.U.—Numerous meetings have been held during the week, with Miss Ogston as principal speaker. The meeting on Saturday was the largest ever held on the Front, and a great many copies of VOTES FOR WOMEN were sold. Next week we are holding meetings at Lewes and Eastbourne, in addition to those held daily on the Front. On Saturday we hope to have a boat at the regatta flying our colours and advertising meetings and our paper. MARY HARR.

BRIXTON W.S.P.U.—We had a large and sympathetic crowd at our meeting on Thursday last at "White Horse," the women in the audience showing special interest in our work. As many of us are about to take a holiday, our meetings will be discontinued till September, when we hope to resume work with renewed vigour. My best thanks are due to those ladies who have so kindly helped at the meetings by selling VOTES FOR WOMEN and taking collections. I am glad to say that all expenses have been covered by the collections, and we have a small balance in hand.

KATHLEEN TANNER.

CROYDON W.S.P.U.—Since it is the wish of our leaders that every local Union should have a shop in their neighbourhood for selling literature, etc., our local committee has the question now under discussion. We should be glad if members would write offering suggestions. Mrs. Roe has already promised to give some chairs for the shop. There is a proposal to get up a play in November to help with the expenses. What can others do? We have to thank Miss Sophie Jackson, M.D., for her subscription of 10s., also Miss Smith for her donation to headquarters. Will members please propose VOTES FOR WOMEN in suggestion book in libraries, signing their names.

G. CAMERON SWAN, Hon. Sec.

HAMPSTEAD W.S.P.U.—On account of the weather our meeting previously arranged for the 8th was postponed till the 13th. A number of members came, and arrangements were made for selling our paper, etc. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, 27th, at 8.30 p.m., in Southwell Studio, South End Road, Hampstead. D. PEARSE.

HORNSEY W.S.P.U.—The open-air meetings at Finsbury and Crouch End Clock Tower were well attended, and 127 papers were sold. Our thanks are due to the speakers, Miss Higgins and Miss Kelley, to the Chairman, Miss Barry, and Miss Herbert and other helpers. The next meeting will be at Finsbury Park, August 26, and at the Clock Tower, Crouch End, August 28. KATE JACKSON.

LEWISHAM W.S.P.U.—A capital drawing-room meeting was held on Monday by Mrs. Taylor and Miss Spurr. Mrs. Eates was the speaker. One of the guests, Mrs. Hoff de Cruz, has offered to work up a meeting and form a local union at Clevedon, near Bristol. The collection and donations amounted to £3. On Tuesday Mrs. Tanner held an open-air meeting in Blackheath Village in the afternoon and another in the evening at the Lewisham Market Place, where the crowd showed such interest that there were questions for the speaker until nearly 11 p.m. Our usual meeting for women only was held in our shop at 3.30 on Friday afternoon, when Mrs. Shipham gave a very interesting lecture on "The Higher Education of Women." Miss Graham took the chair. By special request, the Friday meetings are to be held at 6.30 instead of 3.30 each week. Miss Tyson came to speak for us on Blackheath on Sunday afternoon. One hundred and thirty-five copies of our

paper were sold locally this week. Helpers will always be welcomed at our shop at 72, Tranquil Vale, Blackheath. R. MAY BILLINGHURST.

MARYLEBONE W.S.P.U.—A large crowd assembled in Regent's Park on Sunday afternoon to hear Miss Christopher St. John. Miss Winifred Watson took the chair, and Miss Dixon also spoke. Street corner meetings have been held during the week. A canvass of newsagents is being carried out. Nearly all already stock VOTES FOR WOMEN, or willingly agree to do so. An advertisement of the paper is being placed in every house in Marylebone. About 10 per cent. of the newsagents in the district already show a poster, and several more have promised to do so. Will those who have taken part in the house-to-house canvass and have not yet sent in their reports and canvass-books kindly send them to Miss G. Sheppard, 13, Upper Berkeley Street, W. GENIE SHEPPARD.

PUTNEY AND FULHAM W.S.P.U.—Open-air meetings were held last week at Munster Road, Fulham, and on Putney Heath on Sunday afternoon. The speakers were Mrs. Tanner, Miss Gill-Matt, and Miss Pittfield. Our social evening on Friday was a complete success. Our rather small rooms were closely packed, and during the speeches some of the members had to sit on the stairs. Mrs. Furlley Smith took the chair, and made an earnest appeal for special help during August, when so many of us will be away. Miss Thompson was the chief speaker. Additions were made to the weekly subscription list, and several donations towards general expenses were received. The timetable for next week, except the Sunday meeting, is not yet made out, but any member who can support meetings will find the dates, etc., posted up in the shop. Will they please sign against those which they can attend. Please remember that help given during August by those who must stay in London will be doubly welcome. One of our male supporters has kindly promised to furnish us with a long board, suitably painted and inscribed, for the front of the bow window over the shop. H. ROBERTS, L. CUTTEN, Hon. Secs.

RICHMOND AND KEW W.S.P.U.—Our open-air meeting held on Monday last, July 12, attracted a large audience. Mrs. Archibald (in the chair) and Mrs. Wheatley were the speakers. All those wishing to join our local Union are invited to communicate with the undersigned at Glengariff, Kew Road, Richmond, Surrey.

CLARA T. CLAYTON, Hon. Sec.

STREATHAM AND DISTRICT W.S.P.U.—Our meeting on Streatham Common last Sunday was again most satisfactory, with a crowd even larger than usual. A great many questions were put to Mrs. Cousins, who made an excellent speech. Miss Feek took the chair. We have not yet fixed upon our speaker for next Sunday. The meeting will be at 3 p.m., as usual. LEONORA TYSON, Hon. Sec.

WIMBLEDON W.S.P.U.—Favoured by the fine weather, a large and appreciative audience gathered on the Common on Sunday to hear Mrs. Lamartine Yates. The address was well received, and the speaker replied to many interesting questions. The chair was ably taken by Mrs. Lonsignol.

E. B. for M. GRANT.

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

Mr. Asquith has so far unbent as to consent to receive a petition from the Women's Freedom League by letter, but as the League insists upon delivering it personally, they continue to wait at the House of Commons.

In consequence of the continued refusal of the Prime Minister to receive a deputation, two members of the Women's Freedom League waited outside No. 10, Downing Street, on Thursday during the progress of a Cabinet meeting. Inspector Godding interviewed Mr. Asquith's private secretary, and then informed the women that if they would give him a message it would be delivered to the Prime Minister. The women, however, insisted on their right to present their demand personally, and the Cabinet meeting being about to break up, they were arrested on a charge of obstructing the police and taken to Bow Street. Mr. Marsham ordered them to find one surety each in £5 to keep the peace for three months, or in default to go to prison for one month (afterwards reduced to twenty-one days) in the second division, and added that he hoped they would "behave themselves" in prison. Later in the afternoon two more members of the League were similarly dealt with on the same charge. When asked by the women to be placed in the first division as political offenders, Mr. Marsham replied, "No, you would enjoy yourselves in the first division."

CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST WOMEN'S FRANCHISE ASSOCIATION.

Under the auspices of this association, Professor Sadler, of Victoria University, Manchester, gave a most interesting lecture recently on "The Crisis in Education and the Need of the Influence of Women in Administration." He pointed out that in great crises caused by the meeting of industrial and educational problems it was right and necessary that women should have the power of influencing directly legislation by means of the Parliamentary vote. We needed the judgment and experience of women on all matters appertaining to these problems, and he warmly advocated the extension of the Parliamentary Franchise to women on the same terms as it is now granted to men. An animated discussion followed, and numerous questions were asked.

The last lecture was delivered on July 14, by Dr. Mearns Fraser, Medical Officer of Health, Portsmouth, who took as his subject "Women and Public Health Service." As sanitary inspectors, women had done such excellent work that no medical officer of health would care to be again without them. There were many matters which could not be dealt with effectively by men alone. Such questions included those concerned with midwives, infants, women's employment, and the medical inspection of school children. There were three directions in which women's work should expand; they should become public health officers, they should exercise their right of appointment and control over the sanitary inspectors in their respective districts, and they should become members of boards controlling sanitation.

The Kensington Committee held the last of their series of social evenings on the 2nd inst. The speakers were Dr. Flora Murray, who gave an account of the political history of Women's Suffrage; Miss Bell, who showed how the possession of the vote would improve the position of women in their homes; Miss Gordon, who answered anti-Suffrage objections; and Miss Muriel Thompson, who made an eloquent appeal to those present to come forward and help the cause. These meetings have been most successful, and each one has resulted in an increase of membership. Members have been brought into touch with one another, and this will greatly help forward the scheme of work the committee are preparing for the winter.

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN IN TORONTO.

It is impossible to keep Suffrage out of the Convention. Call it by one name, or call it by another, as has appeared to be the effort so far to do, the bogey crops up at every turn.

There has been one large Suffrage meeting, held in Convocation Hall, the University; or, rather, one half of the meeting was Suffrage. The first half of the resolution dealt with reforms which only Suffrage can ever accomplish, and the second half of the resolution, proposed later, dealt with the Suffrage. The Rev. Anna Shaw presided. The delegate from Norway, where women now have the vote, said: "It is the first great step in human freedom, in the liberty of the world, when no human life shall be dominated by any other without the consent of the governed."

She told us, too, that voters may stand for Parliament, and that women serve in courts of justice and also on juries.

The Rev. Anna Shaw spoke eloquently on the question of Suffrage, and, although she made no allusion to us in England, she made a great point of the marvellous strides the question had made in the last five years, or since the last quinquennial Congress had met in Berlin.

Although Lady Aberdeen spoke, I thought, with some diffidence, owing, as she said, to Lord Aberdeen's high official position, still she admitted that the time had come when she could keep silent no longer, and that even at the risk of divulging State secrets she was bound to say that it would not be very long before women would be in possession of the vote.

The question in itself of the Suffrage movement in England has a drawing power which the most negative people, even at this distance, seem unable to resist. Our colours, which are so much lovelier than any others, and which I am proud to wear, attract more interest than any colours worn at the quinquennial. And having been in prison seems to give more point to one who seeks a reform than any other. It shocks people, too, from an inertia out of which nothing else could rouse them.

MARY KEEGAN.

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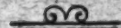
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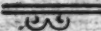
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